MARCH 1996

PRICE: HK$38

China

TOURISM

A RIVER-AND-LAKE TOUR

The Xin'an River – Qiandao Lake – Fuchun River – Qiantang River Route

Exploring the Dêgê Scripture Printing House

"Yan Can Cook" in Beijing

Funeral at the Foot of Ailao Mountains

188

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海天大酒店

Haitian Hotel

總經理：辛克廷　General Manager: Xin Keting

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GROSVENOR HOUSE
嘉 富 樓

會客室 Reception Room

錦江飯店
JIN JIANG HOTEL

上海市錦江（集團）公司
SHANGHAI JIN JIANG (GROUP) CO.

外景 Exterior

餐廳 Restaurant

Located on Mao Ming Road in the city centre, Jin Jiang Hotel is a well-known garden hotel with an area of about 30,000 sq. m., of which 10,000 sq. m. are greenbelt. The hotel is proud to have received about 300 state leaders and government heads since its opening. Its incomparably attentive service has won high praise from guests from both home and abroad.

The architecture and layout of the hotel are of striking characteristics. Set off by two gardens, the three European-style buildings look elegant and magnificent.

The 515 rooms of the hotel are well appointed, including the presidential suite with the unique padauk furniture inlaid with mother-in-pearl and the luxurious suites with modern artistic decoration. You will feel relaxed and comfortable in our spacious rooms with elegant and traditional furnishings.

Jin Jiang's food has a history dating back to the 30's and its Sichuan and Cantonese cuisine has become perfected after more than a half-century of experience. The hotel has presented many cooking and banquet serving performances in Singapore, Hong Kong and U.S.A. etc. The different style restaurants offer a wide range of dining choices and make the hotel a gourmet's paradise.

The Grosvenor House of the hotel has taken on a new look since the renovation. The decoration of its 28 suites has mixed European-style and modern fashion together. It ranks first among the luxurious hotels in Shanghai.

Apart from fine amenities, the hotel has a business centre and shopping arcade. The superb service, nice location and bustling night life will be the ideal choice for you to do business or travel in Shanghai.

錦江飯店座落在上海市中心的茂名路上，佔地3萬餘平方米，綠地面積為1萬餘平方米，是一家著名的花園式飯店。開業至今已接待了100多個國家的近300位國家元首和政府首腦，以及眾多的商賈巨富。周到完善的服務，贏得了中外賓客的一致讚譽。

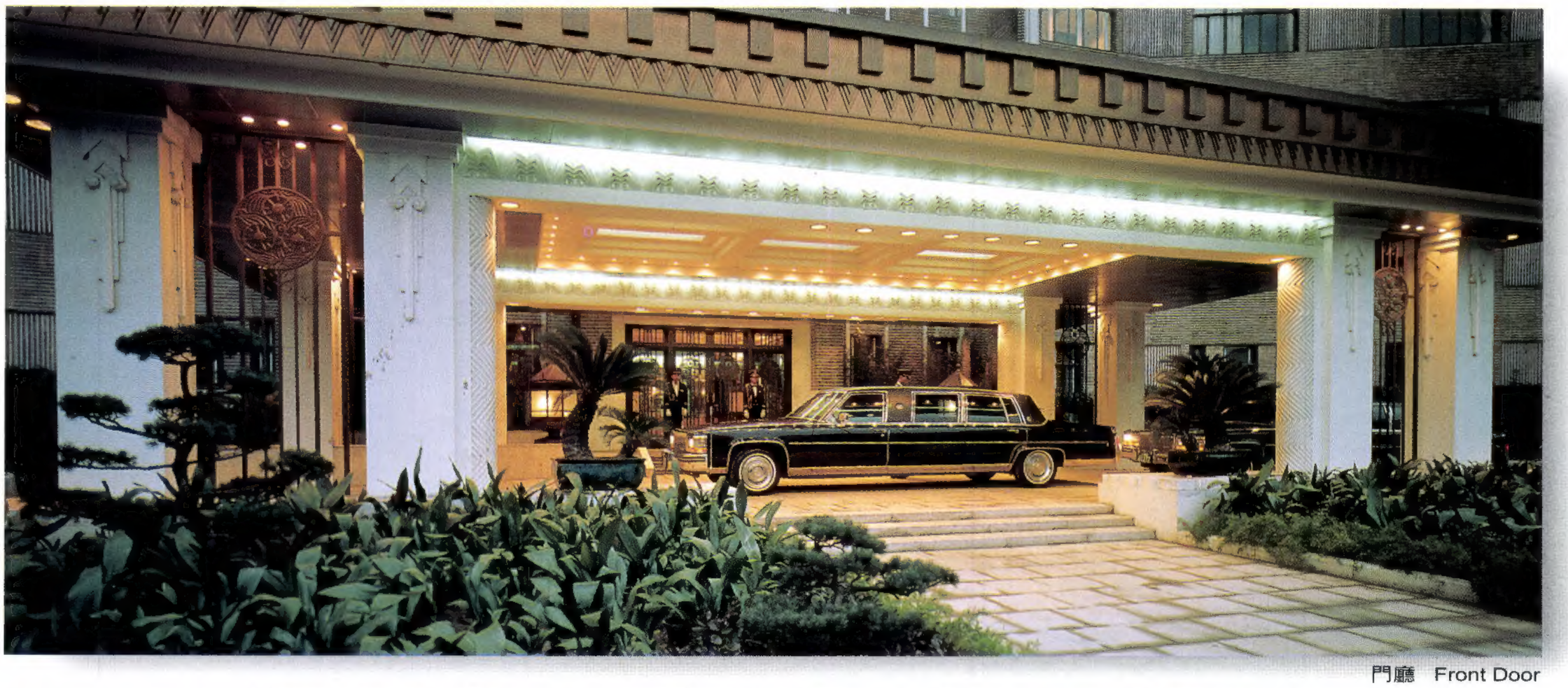
飯店的建築，佈局頗具特色。三幢歐美式建築協調排列，在二座花園的襯托下盡顯高貴典雅之氣。

515間（套）客房中有擺設堪稱一絕的螺鈿鑲嵌工藝家俱的總統套房，以及融合現代藝術手法進行佈置的豪華套房，標準客房體現了歐美建築寬暢舒適的特點，使您在無盡的享受中增添美感。

飯店餐飲始於三十年代，半個多世紀的錘煉造就了一批川、廣菜的名廚。飯店曾多次應邀去美國、新加坡、香港等地進行烹飪和宴會服務表演。飯店的餐廳分佈在各幢大樓，其中以北樓為主，有羅馬式建築風格的餐廳、東方田園式的餐廳和宴會廳等。

值得驕傲的是，經過重新裝修改造的錦江貴賓樓，28套房間均採用歐式傳統與現代風格相結合的裝飾，並配以一流的硬件設施，成為上海豪華級賓館之冠。

錦江飯店設施齊全，除飯店必備的服務設施外，還設有商務中心和購物一條街。快捷的商務服務、適中地段、多姿多采的夜生活，是閣下下榻的最佳選擇。



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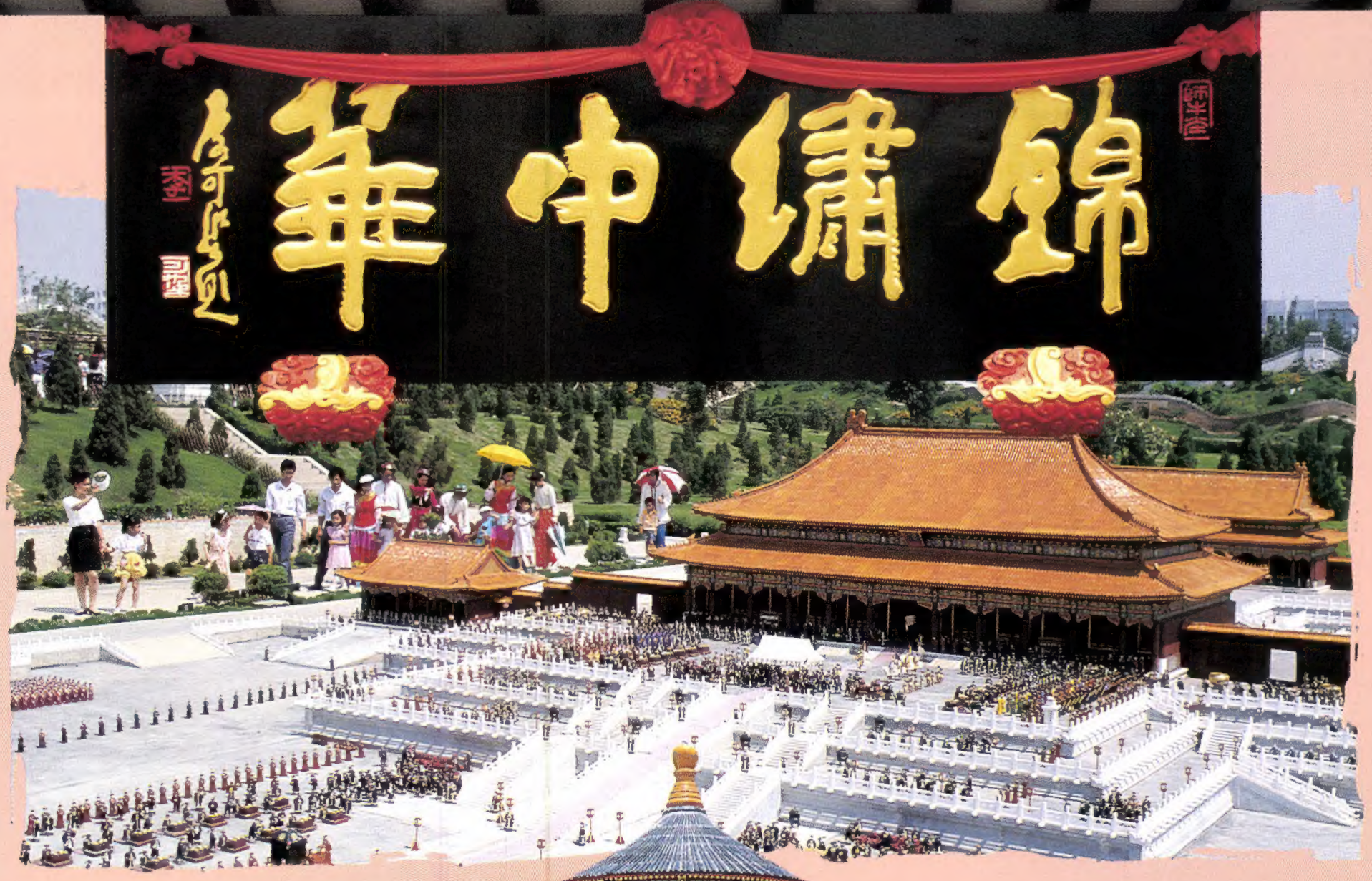

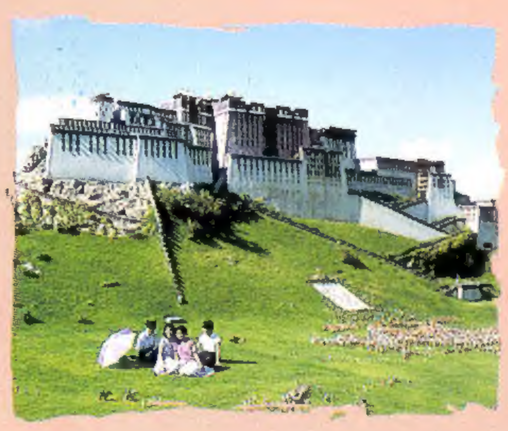

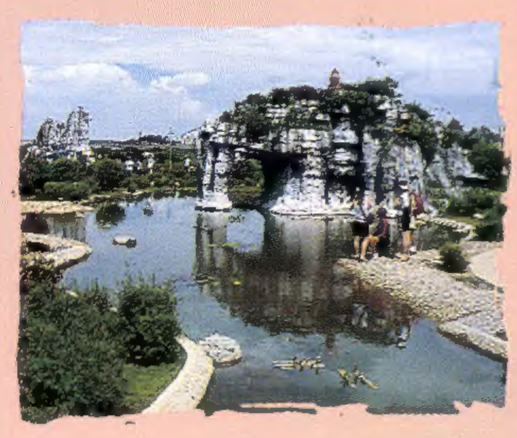

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GOLDEN WATERWAY

We feature this month a tour known as the Golden Waterway. We begin our journey in Anhui Province by boarding a boat at Shendu Harbour. In the crystal clear waters of Xin'an River, we sail into the huge expanse of water covering 58,000 hectares known as Qiandao (Thousand-Islet) Lake where the Xin'anjiang Hydroelectric Dam was built in such haste that unfortunately many ancient sites have been destined to a watery grave including the ancient county seats of Chun'an and Sui'an. The once majestic mountains surrounding this homeland of over 290,000 people, now re-settled, have dwindled to become the 1,078 islets dotting the surface of this lake creating a labyrinth of waterways. We journey on, past the Weiping Peninsula where the famous leader Fang La rose in rebellion against the Northern Song Dynasty some 870 years ago, to Tonglu Town with its twin pagodas and fables, ending in Hangzhou. This Golden Waterway also offers water-sport enthusiasts the chance to chase rapids, drift downstream on bamboo rafts or just bask in the temperate waters of Xin'anjiang Town.

One ancient town too precious to loose is that of Dêgê on the borders of Tibet where we explore the Dêgê Scripture Printing House built in 1732. Amidst a heady aroma created by thousands of ancient birch woodblocks and cinnabar ink we marvel at the huge "library" of ancient scripture classics where true scholars of Buddhism believe this to be the only place to obtain "genuine scriptures". Moving southwest to a hamlet in Yunnan Province our reporter witnesses the funeral customs of the Dai people living in nearby Gasa Township. White elegiac banners dominate the funeral procession consisting of several hundred mourners, and *suona* music, drums, gongs and firecrackers accompany the deceased to his final resting place to be decided on by the breaking of an egg.

Eggs may, or may not, feature in one of the recipes of this TV cookery show host – we will find out over the coming months as we join Martin Yan, of *Yan Can Cook*, during the filming of his new series to venues such as Xi'an, Shanghai and Tianjin. His trademark of mixing food with fun is already evident in this first report from Beijing as he attempts the 128-course banquet of the Complete Feast of Han and Manchurian Delicacies. Will he succeed?...

China Tourism

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A River-and-Lake Tour

Starting from the upper reaches of Xin'an River, Anhui Province we journey along the one and only waterway from Mount Huangshan to the West Lake in Hangzhou. Navigating around the famous man-made Thousand-Islet Lake where many ancient sites lie submerged, up the Fuchun River and into Qiantang River in Hangzhou, whilst passing many ancient towns and historical sites such as the Song-dynasty Hai Rui Temple and Bell Tower on Longshan Islet in Thousand-Islet Lake.

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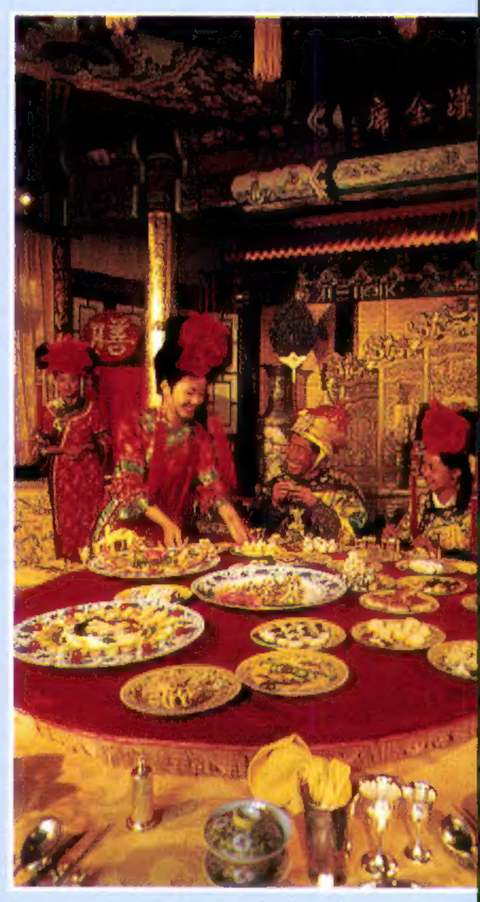

"Yan Can Cook" in Beijing

We meet up with Martin Yan, the man, originally born in Guangzhou, behind the famous TV series *Yan Can Cook*.... Over the next few months we follow him as he tours around China to film his new TV series. We start this month in Beijing in Beihai Park where Yan dons the new guise of an Emperor!

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Funeral at the Foot of Ailao Mountain

In Yunnan Province at the foot of Ailao Mountain our reporter experiences the unique funeral customs of a Dai village. A long funeral procession of several hundred mourners adorned with white elegiac banners and ribbons proceed to the cemetery where a broken egg and cockerel play an important part in selecting the funeral site.

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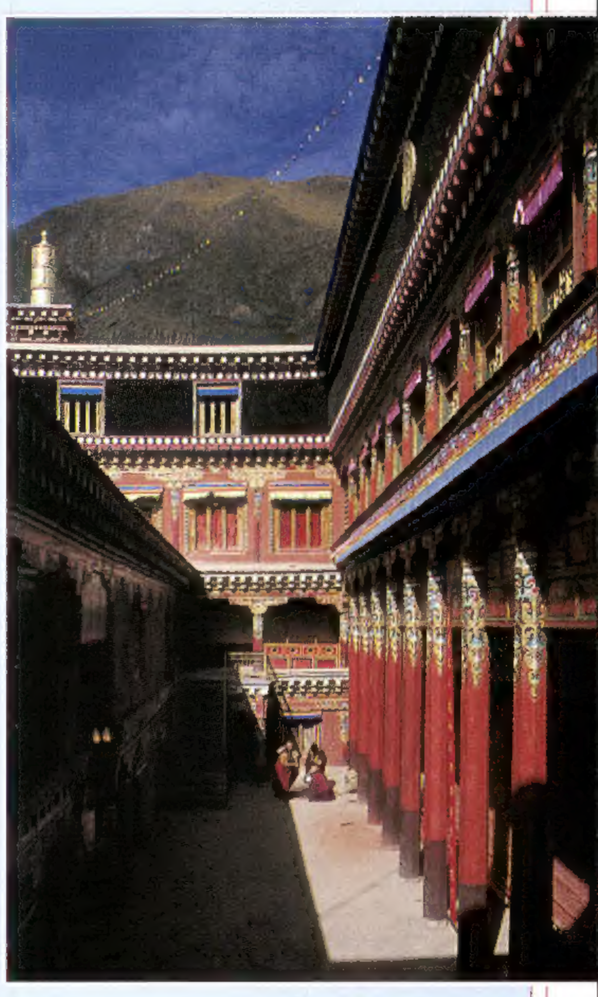


Exploring The Dêgê Scripture Printing House

Located in the remote high plateau just outside Tibet lies this rare Tibetan scripture printing and plate-making factory housing 217,000 woodblocks onto which over 430,000 pages of ancient scriptures, Tibetan classics, translations, biographies, etc. are lovingly carved. Using ancient printing processes over 1,000 years old it has become known as the only printing house producing "genuine scriptures".

Front Cover: *Small boats are the major means of transportation for people living along the Xin'an River (by Xie Guanghui).*

TOURIST HIGHLIGHTS — RIVER AND LAKE TOUR

Guangxi

A River-And-Lake Tour

THE XIN'AN RIVER-QIANDAO LAKE-FUCHUN RIVER-QIANGTANG RIVER ROUTE

夕阳的余晖洒在宋代的酒楼上，暮色苍茫中，我们出门看景去了，第一排排的

THE GOLDEN WATERWAY

The joy of mountaineering at Mount Huangshan had hardly subsided before the travel bug began gnawing at my insides again. It was early spring and the Xin'an River was at its seasonal best so there was no reason to miss a cruise along the river.

In fact, starting from the Xin'an River, passing through Qiandao (Thousand-Islet) Lake into Fuchun River and entering the Qiantang towards Hangzhou in Zhejiang Province, is a "golden waterway tourist route". Along this route scenic spots and historical sites continuously appear before one's eyes. No wonder this route, exceptionally enchanting during spring, draws streams of visitors.

2

1. An idyllic way of life exists in the upper reaches of the Xin'an River.
2. Tunxi was once a busy wharf by the Xin'an River.

Map of River-and-Lake Tour

The Ancient Town of Yuliang

漁梁街長約三

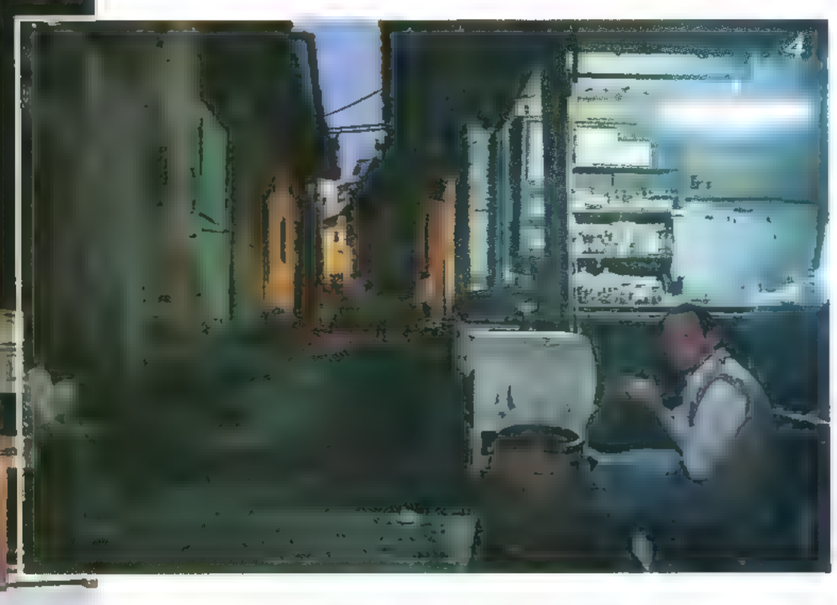
華里，高牆與低檐相間，

長街與短巷交錯，

令人有撲朔迷離之感

The crystal Lianjiang and the blue Jianjiang rivers converge into the Xin'an at Pukou in Shexian County, Anhui Province. My first destination was the ancient town of Yuliang at the upper reaches of the Xin'an River. The 1.5-kilometre-long Yuliang Street crisscrossed by some small lanes makes one confused. Paved with smooth cobblestones the street is flanked by houses, mostly wooden, with the eaves of their garrets stretching over the centre of the street. The buildings overlooking the river stand perilously on a cliff. From these windows one can see the masts of fishing boats moving on the river. Yuliang Dam is an ancient reservoir built in the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279) and renovated many times in the Ming and Qing dynasties. The 50-metre-wide dam was constructed from large pieces of granite with a spillway at its southern end. Local people wash their vegetables and cloth-

1. Most buildings in Yuliang Town date back to the Ming and Qing dynasties.
2. Nowhere is life more congenial than in this ancient-looking house.
3. A classically elegant shop
4.The tiny town is tranquil at night.
5. A fishing family



ing at the other end. On the river a faint reflection of the quiet and peaceful ancient town can be seen from the top of the dam.

On a brilliant spring day we boarded a boat at Shendu Harbour in Shexian County, Anhui Province and embarked on a cruise to Qiandao Lake in neighbouring Zhejiang Province.

Here the river gradually widens and peaks rise to flank its sides. When the boat approached Yuetan Village, I heard someone cry out, "Loquat!". In some trees I found clusters of small green fruit and was informed then that Yuetan, Zhangtan and Miantan villages on the banks of the Xin'an river are known as the "home of loquat". The river flows through these villages in the shape of the letter "Z", forming a warm and humid climate favourable to the growth of this fruit. The loquat produced in this area are big, with a thin peel, thick flesh and sweet juice. In May, it is said, the riversides are tinged golden by the loquat trees, heavily laden with ripe fruit.

The boat had two cabins. Most passengers on the lower deck were local farmers, while tourists occupied the upper deck. It was drizzling, but this did not deter us from going up on to look at the lovely scenery on either side of the river.

The Xin'an River provides the one and only passageway from Mount Huangshan to the West Lake in Hangzhou. Towering mountains line its banks and the secluded houses scattered at the foot of the mountains belong to the local inhabitants of fishermen. Gone for ever are the merchant fleets which used to shuttle up and down the river between Shexian County and Hangzhou.

Rising from Mount Huangshan the river water is crystal clear, especially in the upper reaches, as a granite riverbed keeps the water free of soil erosion. For this reason the Xin'an is regarded as the most beautiful river in China. In ancient China its convenient river transportation helped Shexian merchants gather riches and rise to national prominence. With its picture postcard scenery, the river is a source of inspiration for the famous Xin'an school of traditional Chinese painting, represented by the master artist Huang Binhong.

The rain stopped when our boat pulled into Jiekou, a harbour on the border of Anhui and Zhejiang provinces. I disembarked and strolled down the riverside street which appeared deserted. I learned that the townspeople, old and young, man and woman, had left home to pick tea in the mountains. In Jiekou, part of Shexian County, its houses look quite out of place — the usual trademark of Shexian architecture, horse-headed ornamental walls, have given way to gables. The roofs are also different being thatched with layers of slate instead of tiles. Every courtyard is planted with one or two peach or pear trees. At this time of the year, the trees were in full blossom, embellishing the neighbourhood with a riot of pleasant colours.

1. Bridges are a rarity in the upper reaches of the Xin'an River; as a result ferry boats provide a great service for locals.
2. A spring scene: farmers gathering in carrots, to be shipped to markets in Hangzhou
3. People living by the Xin'an River preserve cabbage in preparation for the coming winter.
4. Apart from by boat, the only way to transport goods is on foot.

When the reservoir was created, the higher mountains became islets and lower peaks turned into shoals on the bottom of the man-made lake (by Wang Jinqiu)

ВСЕ ПРАВА ОХРАНЯЮТСЯ — ФОТОГРАФИЯ И ТЕКСТ

Man-Made Lake with a Maze of Waterways

兩座古老的縣城

因灌水成湖而沉入

水底，昔日的農田成了

80萬畝水面，而群山

山頂便成了1,078座島嶼

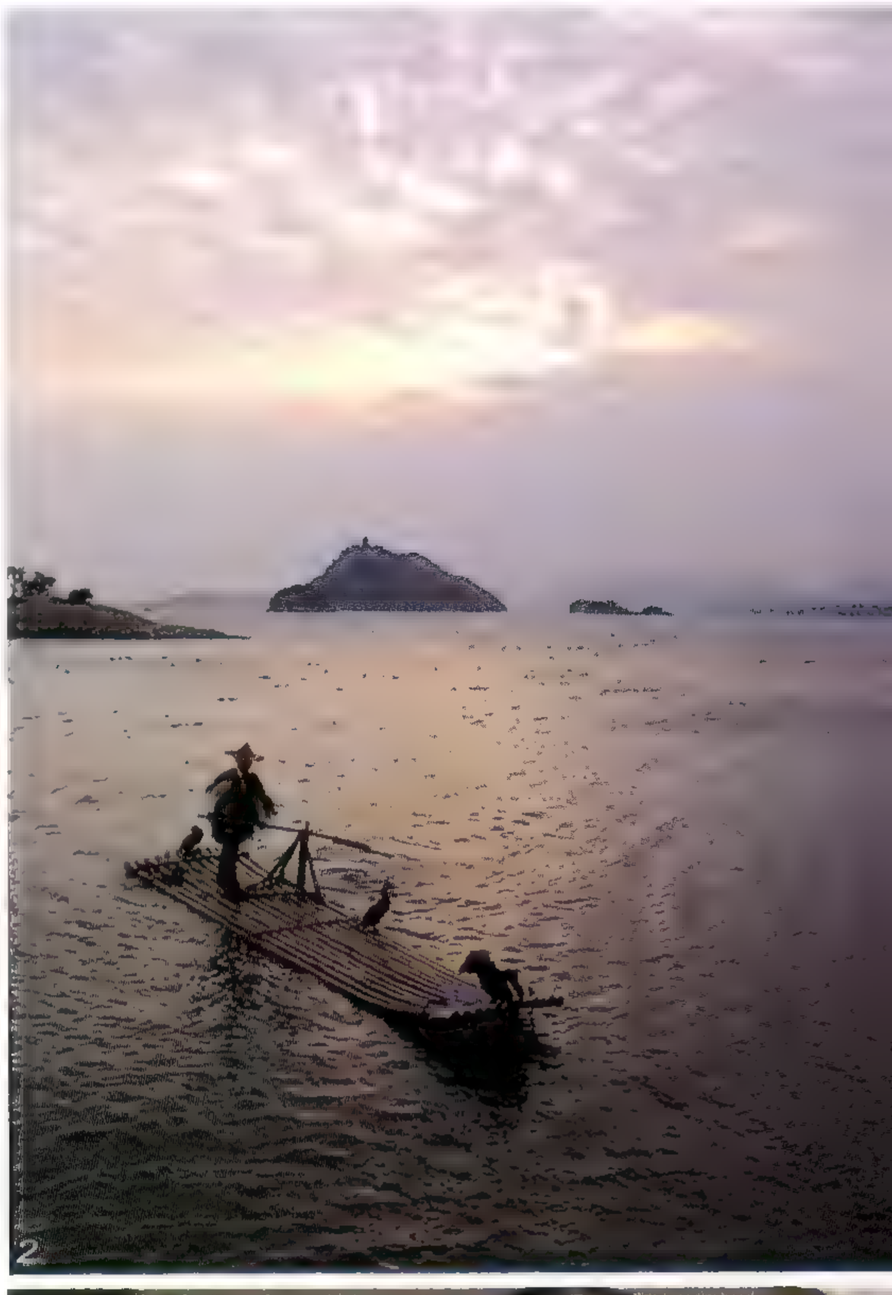
The boat left Jiekou and resumed its journey. The river grew wider as it meanderedits way into Zhejiang Province. By the time we sailed past the Weiping Peninsula we felt the imposing presence of Thousand-Islet Lake. This is where the famous peasant leader Fang La rose in rebellion against the Northern Song Dynasty some 870 years ago. Vestiges of that uprising can still be found in Weiping Town, including the mountain cave where the peasant leaders first gathered, the platform on which Fang La manoeuvred his mighty army, and the gurgling spring said to have brought the peasant rebels good luck.

In the 1950s, a great dam was built for the construction of the Xin'anjiang Hydroelectric Power Station. As a result the two ancient county seats of Chun'an and Sui'an were buried under water along with vast tracts of farmland. Mountain tops protrude from the surface of the 58,000-hectare lake to become 1,078 islets. As our boat cleaved its way through the waves, we realized we were actually travelling in what used to be the sky above the two old counties.

We stopped at the Longshan (Dragon Hill) Islet to visit the temple built in honour of Hai Rui, a justice official who was appointed head of the census bureau of Chun'an County in 1549. Later after Hai Rui was transferred from the county, the local people raised some money and built this temple in his memory. The original Hai Rui Temple had long sunk deep into the lake; the structure we saw today being a larger replica which was built in 1985. An elaborately carved archway in typical Ming-dynasty palatial style graced the front of the temple was moved here from a shrine which has since disappeared under water. I was told that many pillars, screens and door frames in the temple were obtained by demolishing ancient structures before they were flooded. A bell tower, built in the Song-dynasty architectural style, stands at the top of the Longshan Islet. Enshrined in the tower is a huge bell dating back to the Southern Song Dynasty some seven centuries ago. Thirty-six strapping young men carried it here from what was to become the bottom of the reservoir.

The bell tower provides a panoramic view of the vast lake. The Xin'an River Dam was built in such haste that many ancient sites were buried under the lake. The celebrated Shixia Academy, for instance, now lies under water about one

1. The lake is strewn with boats during the fishing season (by Wang Jinqiu).
2. Fishing at night with the aid of cormorants (by Wang Jinqiu)
3. Black carp, each weighing several dozen kilogrammes, make good material for dry meat slices.
4. Every year two major fishing operations take place in the lake; during the peak fishing season, it is not uncommon to haul in more than 5,000 kilogrammes of fish at a time (by Wu Zongqi).



由142個島嶼組成

的界首群島，幾乎佔了

千島湖的七分之一，

水道曲折。倘若不熟悉

環境的外地漁船闖入，

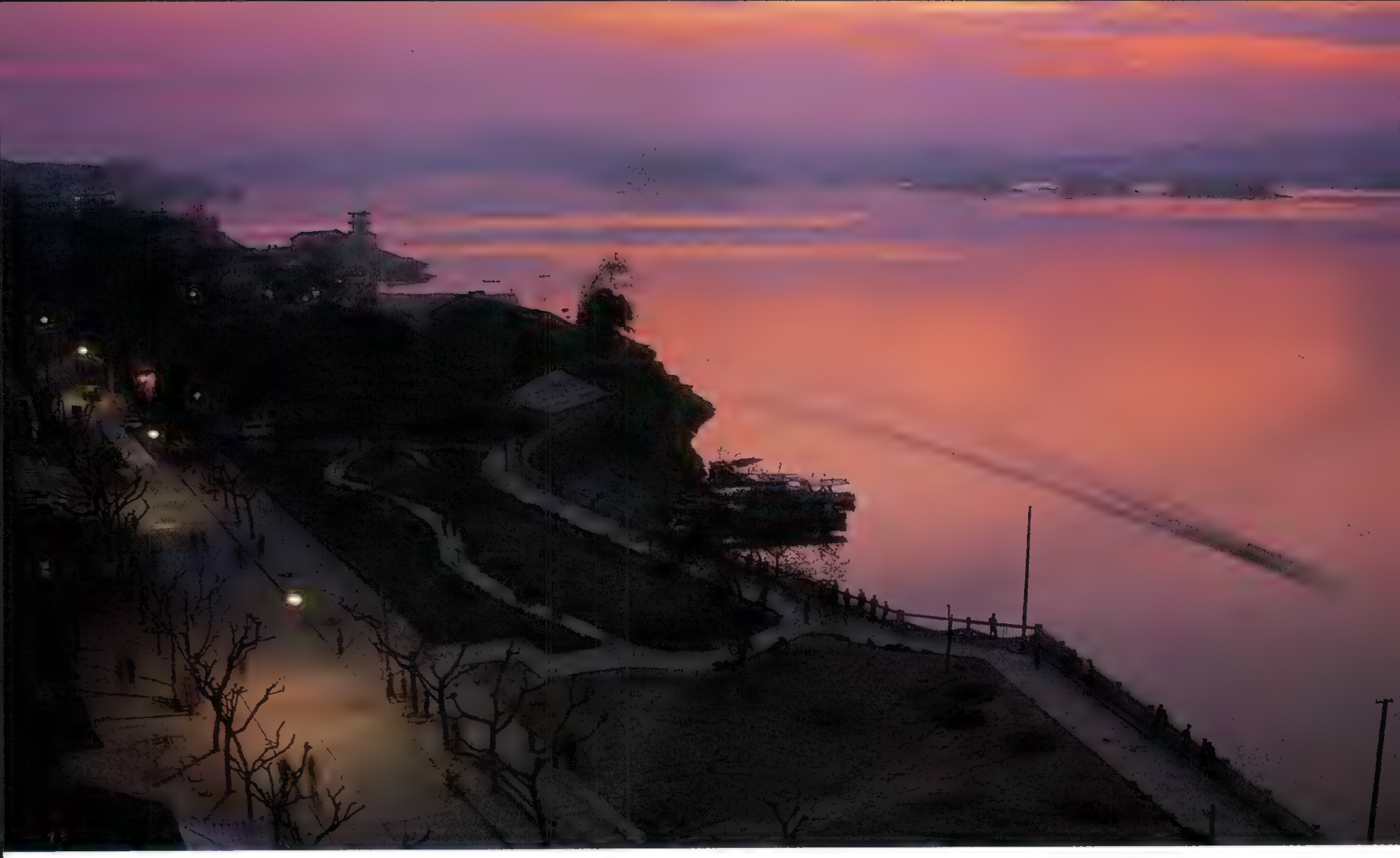
是很難轉得出去的

kilometre to the northwest of the bell tower. As many as 290,000 local residents were resettled and today, many of them return once a year to pay homage to their long lost home at the bottom of the lake.

Apart from Longshan Islet, other tourist attractions on the lake include Snake Islet, Monkey Islet, Bird Islet, Lock Islet and Wenxing Islet, which are enough for a two-day trip. However, for those who want to get lost in nature for a while, the Jieshou (Boundary Head) Islets are the place to be.

The Jieshou Islets are situated where the centre of the lake is separated from its southwestern part. Before the lake existed, the islets were actually a chain of mountains on the border of Chun'an and Sui'an counties. This is the widest part of the lake, with the two old county seats buried right at its bottom. Composed of 142 islets of varying sizes, Jieshou occupies one-seventh of the surface of the Thousand-Islet Lake. The labyrinth of waterways can be a headache for fishermen not familiar with the terrain. A few years ago, a fishing boat blundered into the area and it took the sailors quite a few days and nights to find the way out. But this did not deter the operators of our boat, who manoeuvred around numerous loops and twists until they dropped anchor at a tiny wharf. We climbed ashore and mounted the highest peak on the isle. Only then did we see the full scale of the hundred and one waterways threading through clusters of islets. The Thousand-Islet Lake is indeed a most appropriate name.

I stayed overnight at Pailing, the new seat of Chun'an County. Before the completion of the Xin'an Dam the place was but a deserted pine tree forest but opening the window that evening, I heard waves lapping at the shore while a gentle breeze rustled through the wooded mountain slopes.



Beautiful Reservoir Town

新安江大壩從幾十米深處

放出來的庫水，流經

新安江鎮時，常年保持

攝氏14～15度的水溫，

使得這小城的氣候冬暖夏涼

The waterway from Chun'an to Jiande ended abruptly at the Xin'an River Dam. The following day I arrived at Maozhuyuan by motorboat, and took the bus to Xin'anjiang Town. It is always springtime in town, thanks to the fact that the temperature of the reservoir tributary running through the town always stays at 14-15 °C. In summer, the temperature difference gives rise to advection fog, known as White Sand Fog, a unique phenomenon in Jiande County, and so-called because the town is also known as Baisha (White Sand) Town. Before the construction of the dam the town was a ferry crossing inhabited by five or six families.

Meicheng, or Town of Plum Flowers, is situated where the Xin'an River crosses Fuchun River. The town got its name from the plum-flower-patterned crenels of the town-wall battlements. With a 1,700-year history, this tiny town used to be a political, cultural and economic centre but as traffic on the river gradually thinned out, the town was eventually consigned to oblivion. Surprisingly the ancient style archways and riverside town wall were built only a couple of years ago. A dozen or so fishing boats anchored at the foot of the imitation ancient city tower were empty, the fishermen, all Catholic were attending Sunday church.

The Town of Plum Flowers was already quiet as the clock struck eight. I climbed atop the riverside tower and saw lovers standing in the gentle breeze, mesmerized. There was something mysterious about the river, the lights of fishing boats flickered in the distance.

1. The lake tainted red in the setting sun
2. A new bridge links Zaixiang Islet with Snake Islet (by Wang Jianzheng).
3. A newly sculpted figure of bygone days stands on Longshan Islet.
4. Intricate carvings of Hai Rui Temple on Longshan Islet

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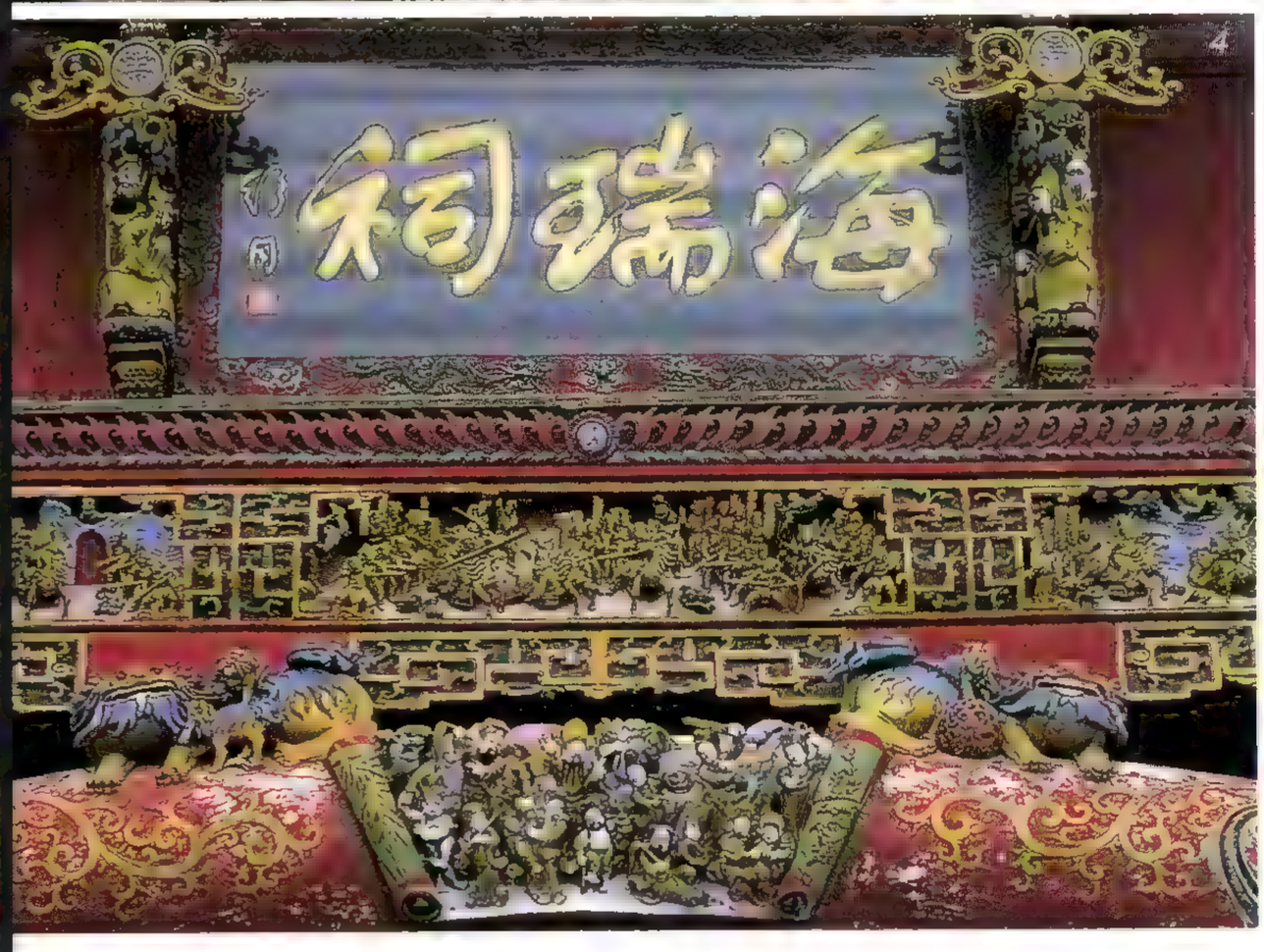

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TIPS FOR VISITORS TO THOUSAND-ISLET LAKE

The Thousand-Islet Lake is actually a huge reservoir designed to detain water from the upper reaches of the Xin'an River. As the name suggests, there are some 1,078 islets of varying size in the lake.

Skirted on four sides by rolling mountains, the crystal clear lake occupies an area of 58,000 hectares. As the water temperature stands at a perennial 14 °C, the lake is open all year round to tourists.

The lake abounds in scenic spots and historical, as well as fabled sites. The alluring landscape is clad with green mountains, elegant rivers, hidden caves and unusual rocks. Longshan, Laoshan, Xianshan, Guihua and Mishan are the most beautiful of the thousand or so islets.

Longshan Islet, so named because it looks like a dragon from a distance, is situated at the centre of the lake, about five kilometres from the seat of Chun'an County. Hidden in thick verdure are the Longshan Academy, the Cave of the Goddess of Mercy and the temple in memory of the justice-upholding official Hai Rui.

Mishan Islet protrudes from the southeastern part of the lake like a beacon tower; the *nirvana* graves of three monks are to be found midway up the mountain in the southwestern part of the islet. The islet is believed to be the venue of the famous tale of three monks: When there is one monk, he carries two pails of water at both ends of a bamboo pole; when there are two monks living together, they carry one pail between them; and when there are three, they all want to be the third man so that they have no water to drink and are destined to die of thirst.

The Guihua (Osmanthus) Islet, covered with wild sweet-scented osmanthus trees, is known for its exotic-looking rocks, including "A Rhinoceros Whistling at the Sky", "The Moon Reflected in the Sparkling Water", "Stone Gateway to the Sky", "Lake Viewing Terrace", and "A Cave Reaching Out to the River".

Many islets on the lake have become natural habitats for animals such as deer, birds, snakes and monkeys.

Qiandaohu Town in Chun'an operates five or six hotels which provide standard facilities at 100-150 yuan per room. Visitors can dine in the hotels or at fish restaurants in the streets. Prices for fish dishes are rather low in town. A steamed 400-gramme mandarin fish sells for about 20 yuan. Local specialities include tea, mountain walnuts, day lilies and chestnuts.

Two routes to the Thousand-Islet Lake are available in Hangzhou. One can travel to Maozhuyuan by way of Tonglu and then take the ferry-boat to the lake in Chun'an County. Or one can drive directly to the lake in Chun'an by way of Fenshui. The wide concrete road from Hangzhou to Maozhuyuan is the choice of most travellers. Hourly bus services to Maozhuyuan or the Thousand-Islet Lake in Chun'an are available at Hangzhou's Wulinmen Long-Distance Bus Station and in front of Suhang Hotel near the New Zhaohui Village.

Text by Xie Guanghui

Twin Pagodas Face-to-Face Across a River

傳說西王娘娘命青鳥

銜一顆桂圓，飛去吐在

塔頂上，於是便長成

枝葉茂盛的桂圓樹，

使得南峰塔

有如戴上一頂桂冠

Early the following day, our boat set east for Tonglu. Some 500 metres into the journey, I saw two pagodas atop two mountains facing each other across a river. A longan tree grew right on the top of one of the pagodas, its thick foliage looking like a huge crown. According to legend, the Lady Queen Mother living in the Penglai Wonderland once saw a painting of twin pagodas by the celebrated artist Tang Yin (1470-1523). She was so taken by the beauty of the work that she wrote three characters on the painting which mean "husband-and-wife pagodas". Then she asked a blue bird to plant a longan seed on the roof of one of the pagodas. The seed survived and grew into the gigantic tree we see today.

The twin pagodas were a distinctive landmark which serve as navigation points for local fishermen, indicating that one has arrived at the Town of Plum Flowers and that the famous Qililong (Seven-*Li* Rapids) on the Fuchun River is not far away.

1. The stone archway is a favourite of tourists wanting to take pictures of Yan Ziling's Angling Terrace.
2. Statues of many historical figures have been erected at Yan Ziling's Angling Terrace.
3. The Fuchun River remains home to descendants of nine families of fishermen.

No More Smooth Sailing on Qililong

自從大壩建成後，

七里瀧水位提高了，

江面變得平靜

如鏡，再也沒有船兒

借助風勢飛快行駛的景象

Before Qililong Dam was completed, sailing on the 20-kilometre-long stretch of river from Town of Plum Flowers to Qililong was rather smooth on a windy day, but if there was no wind, the river traffic could slow down to a snail's pace. Consequently sail boats had to drop anchor and wait for the east wind to rise. And once the wind arose, the river became alive with thousands of boats racing down river. Today, the dam has raised the water level considerably, and the river has become as wide and as smooth as a huge mirror. The sailing boats of bygone days have long since given way to cruisers and motorboats, and the scene of numerous boats ploughing through the Seven-*Li* Rapids is a thing of the past.

In no time the boat reached the ferry crossing where, as legend has it, Wu Zixu, a high ranking official of the Spring and Autumn Period, boarded a boat and fled to the State of Wu, to the exasperation of King Ping of the State of Chu who was in hot pursuit. Today, stories about Wu's escape remain on the lips of the local people.

Further downstream the river narrows and the mountains on either side look more and more precarious. The scenery evokes memories of the Three Gorges on the Yangtse River, but, with the blue sky and clumps of green trees silhouetted in the gleaming water, the river has an elegance and charm which is lacking in the Three Gorges.

嚴子陵曾是東漢光武帝劉秀的同學，劉秀即位後，他便改名換姓隱居嵩春山，堅辭光武帝封官

Yan Ziling's Angling Terrace

At Yan Ziling's Angling Terrace, the statue of a scholar called Yan Guang, alias Ziling stands between an archway and a temple built in his honour. He was a schoolmate of Liu Xiu, the Emperor Guangwu of the Eastern Han Dynasty. After Liu took the throne he searched for Yan; when news came that a man in a goat-skin robe was spotted angling by the Fuchun River, the emperor instantly knew who the man was. Only after he was summoned three times did Yan comply and go to the capital where he turned down the emperor's offer of the post as Grand Master of Remonstrance returning to the Songchun Mountain, where he became a recluse and spent his time tilling the land and angling by the river. Yan died at the venerated age of 80. Actually there are two terraces at the place. The eastern terrace was where Yan cast his hooks, further up the mountain, a stone pavilion enshrines a stone tablet inscribed with the text of Hua Ye's "Biography of Yan Guang". A hundred metres away stands the western terrace, where Xie Ao of the Song Dynasty wept aloud as he offered libation and sacrifices to Wen Tianxiang (1236-1289), a patriotic general who died a hero's death at the hands of Mongol invaders.

Glancing at the river from the terraces I saw the water tainted blue and green by the smudge of surrounding wooded mountains, adding a touch of delicate gracefulness to an otherwise awesome landscape. On the other side of the river nestles a village of a dozen or so families who are descendants of Yan Ziling. Here fishing is a way of life rather than the mere pastime of their ancestor.

When the Qililong Dam was built, the temple in honour of the scholar was submerged. A new temple built in 1983 stands at the foot of the scholar's angling terrace.

1. In Tonglu County, a waxworks museum draws inspirations from the classic "Thirty-Six Stratagems".
2. Life by the Fuchun River is poetic.
3. Get to taste the life of a fisherman by rafting along the Tianmu River.
4. Returning to nature: sailing on bamboo rafts while eating bamboo-tube rice

Green and Yellow Rivers

春季雨多，富春江的

綠水和天目溪的

黃水滙合時形成分明的

界線，並行東去

Returning to our boat we resumed our journey. About one kilometre later, we disembarked at the Qililong Dam and took a bus tour of the seat of Tonglu County.

Tonglu was incorporated as a county more than 1,700 years ago in the Kingdom of Wu. The county derived its name from the Tongjun Mountain one kilometre east of the county which was home to Tongjun, the legendary father of traditional Chinese herbal medicine. In spring, religious followers flock to the Tongjun Temple to pay homage by burning incense sticks and lighting candles.

The top of the Tongjun Mountain provides a panoramic view of the riverside county. The southern bank is the famed Ten-*Li* Shoal, native place of Fang Gan, a famous Tang-dynasty poet. The newly opened Daqishan National Forest Park is situated on the beach. Water flows down the Tianmu Mountain and past the Tongjun Mountain before converging in the Fuchun River. A spectacular scene appears in spring, when silt-laden flood waters turn the Fuchun River into a rolling yellow belt running parallel to the tranquil Tianmu Stream, tainted green by riverside trees.

CRUISE ON FUCHUN RIVER

The upper reaches of the Fuchun River extend more than 100 kilometres from Meicheng to the Wenjiayan Dam at Xiaoshan by way of Tonglu and Fuyang counties. A cluster of tourist attractions are scattered along this section. The 24-kilometre section between Meicheng and Tonglu is hemmed in by razor-sharp cliffs, resulting in a scenery of natural beauty. Known as the Seven-*Li* Rapids, the area consists of eight scenic spots with exotic names such as "Twin Pagodas Piercing the Clouds", "Smooth Sailing on Seven-*Li* Rapids", "Ancient Pavilion Amidst a Thousand Peaks" and "Angling from Twin Terraces". Up the Fuchun Mountain on the northern bank is Yan Ziling's Angling Terrace dating back to the Eastern Han Dynasty (25-220). The terrace offers a panoramic view of the Seven-*Li* Rapids, known as Minor Three Gorges on the Fuchun River. The foot of the mountain is clustered with tourist attractions such as Yan Ziling's Temple and the No. 1 Stone Tablet Forest South of the Yangtse River. A ferry crossing and temple named after Wu Zixu, a famous general of the State of Wu of the Spring and Autumn Period (770-476 B.C.), are situated where the tributary Xuxi River empties itself into the Fuchun River.

The foaming rapids at the mouth of the gorge fade into the man-made lake with the completion of the Fuchun River Hydroelectric Power Station in 1968 at the Ziling Shoal. Scenic places in the lower reaches of the Fuchun River include the ancient Longmen Town and Heshan (Crane) Mountain.

Visitors to Tonglu County are encouraged to raft the Tianmu River on a picturesque five-kilometre journey from the Yaolin Bridge to Bipu comprising 18 shoals, each one higher than the other. Tumbling down the river on board a bamboo raft is a thrilling experience. Along the way tourists can marvel at cormorants diving into the water and resurfacing with their thick throats choked with fish. At the end of their adventure the rafters can take a rest on the sandy beach and enjoy a barbecue served with bamboo-tube rice.

Sailing further down the Fuchun River from Tonglu County, one reaches Tongjun Mountain, the sanctuary of Tong Jun, father of traditional Chinese herbal medicine. The pavilion, temple and white stupa are all named after him. From atop Tongjun Mountain one can feast one's eyes on the mist-enshrouded Fuchun River.

There are nearly 100 hotels and guest houses in Tonglu. The best are Fuchunjiang Hotel, which has 180 beds with the standard room at 218-238 yuan, and for Tonglu Guesthouse, which has 190 beds, a standard room is 180 yuan. Local delicacies include boiled corncobs, sesame seed cakes, baked wheat-flour dough. Gourmandisers can try Ziling fish in chilli sauce, catfish cooked with dehydrated vegetables, steamed whitefish and boiled crabs. Other local specialties include white pears, day lily and kiwi fruit.

Tonglu is 90 kilometres from Hangzhou. Direct bus services to Tonglu are available in Hangzhou, at the Wulinmen Long-Distance Bus Station and in front of the Hangzhou Great Hall of the People. *Text by Xie Guanghui*

The Qiantang River Tidal Bore

錢塘江潮

水逼近時濤聲震天，白浪騰空；雖然我們沒有碰上秋天，卻一樣欣賞到這「天下奇觀」

Less than 50 kilometres downstream from the Tongjun Mountain is Fuyang County, native place of Yu Dafu (1896-1945), a patriotic Chinese writer who was murdered by the Japanese in Sumatra, Indonesia, during World War II. The Fuchun River flows by the foot of Mount Heshan (Crane) and widens considerably after making a sharp turn to the east. I climbed half way up the mountain. In the coolness of a gentle breeze, I had a wonderful rest at the pavilion built in

memory of the author and his elder brother Yu Mantuo.

The Yu Dafu Museum is a two-storey wooden affair. Unfortunately the gate was locked. The mountain was thronged with sightseers, but most of them ended up nursing a cup of tea at the teahouse called "No. 1 Pavilion by the Fuchun River". Naturally the museum looked deserted.

Sailing past Mount Crane, I saw hills on either side of the river gradually give way to flat farmland. As the river surface widened, the number of fishing boats diminished. In no time we found ourselves sailing on the Qiantang River. Despite its width, the river is full of twists and turns, which keeps sailors constantly vigilant. At long last the famous Qiantang Bridge came into sight, and I knew the prosperous city of Hangzhou was not far away. The famous Liuhe (Six-Harmony) Pagoda towering over the bridge was built with the intention of taming the unruly tidal waves of the river, but to no avail; the tides have become a perennial sight which never fails to attract swarms of visitors from around the world. The Qiantang River tidal bore, a remarkable natural phenomenon, is at its most spectacular on the 18th day of the eighth lunar month when it looks like a white chain lying across the river.

Translated by Ling Yuan
Photos by Xie Guanghui
Article by Gan Xiaowen & Gan Xiaojun

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1.The tidal bore of the Qiantang River (by Chen Hailin)
2. Relaxation on an observation pavilion by the Qiantang River
3. Playing mahjong in a teahouse by the Qiantang River
4. Liuhe (Six-Harmony) Pagoda by the Qiantang River in Hangzhou (by Zhang Keqing)

4

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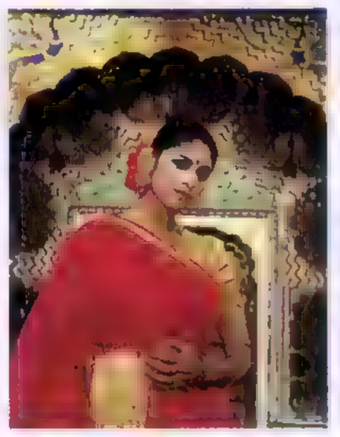

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Moonlit Night

Why are these photographs of night scenes so well conceived and so enchanting to look at? It is because they have "borrowed light".

People of ancient times, especially men of letters, loved the moon. But unfortunately, there was no photography then. Had there been, a vast number of excellent photographs capturing the poetry of moonlit nights would have been handed down to today.

However, what the ancients might have envied, had they known about it, has become quite easy today. First, you carefully make an exposure (probably several exposures). The time for each exposure usually varies between one second or several minutes, or even longer; it depends on the brightness of the main subject. Leave an area free for the moon. Then change your lens to a long distance zoom lens, focus on the moon, "frame" the shot according to the position you have left in the first lens exposure and press the shutter. Or you can take the main subject and the moon at the same time.

Taking photos by using this "borrowed light" technique will help you produce meaningful pictures of moonlit nights while on your travels. Why not go ahead and try it!

Translated by Xiong Zhenru
Text by Huang Yanhong & Yu Lan

YULAN MAGNOLIA INVITING THE MOON

After the park has closed, the Long Corridor becomes dark and quiet. The Summer Palace, once the garden of the imperial family, is swept by a cool breeze. The snow-white Yulan magnolia flowers turn their faces upward towards the night sky, waving in the gentle breeze as if flying up to the silvery moon.

Photo by He Wei
At the Summer Palace in Beijing

THE SUMMER PALACE BY NIGHT

The Suzhou Street inside the park turns quiet after a noisy day. When the visitors have left, only the lanterns on the towers and pavilions compete with the moonlight.

Photo by He Wei in Beijing

THE ELEPHANT TRUNK HILL AT NIGHT

The small boats are moored and

Elephant Trunk Hill falls into a slumber;

the quiet river is as smooth as a mirror,

only the pale moon hangs in the night sky

as though in deep thought.

Photo by Teng Bin in Guilin

THE MOON AT DAWN OVER THE LUGOU BRIDGE

The Lugou (Marco Polo) Bridge still lies in western Beijing, but time slips by quietly. When the moon haloes, winds will spring up. Have the trees on the river bank already foreseen the weather tonight?

Photo by He Wei in Beijing

"Yan Can Cook" in Beijing

To be honest, I rarely do any cooking myself, but am very interested in the 30-minute programme "Yan Can Cook" hosted by Mr. Martin Yan every Thursday on Star TV. His exaggerated demonstration of cooking techniques and humorous language often cause the audience to laugh. His programme is both informative and interesting, teaching the audience a few tricks of the trade while creating both beautiful and tasty dishes.

A HUMOROUS BUT BASHFUL PERSON

With his TV image fixed in my mind, I easily spotted him among the crowd at the Beijing International Airport. He was in China for the first time to shoot a TV special on Chinese cooking for "Yan Can Cook" having just won an award for the "best TV cooking programme of 1994" issued by the James Beard Foundation of the United States.

As a person, I found Mr. Yan rather reserved and somewhat bashful, not at all like his TV personality. He told me he was born in Guangzhou in 1952 and moved to Hong Kong at the age of 13. Many young people of his age went to work in the countryside during the "cultural revolution". In Hong Kong, he lived with his uncle who owned a restaurant. After school, he would often go and help in the kitchen and this way he learned some cooking skills. More importantly, it sealed his tie with Chinese cooking. In 1973, he went to study in University of California in the United States and graduated with first a BA and then a MA in food processing. Upon graduation, he went back to Hong Kong to work in the field of food research. The year 1979 found him in the United States again, this time teaching cooking in a university and a restaurant. His courses were so popular that PBS signed with him up with a contract for a 130-episode TV series. It was then that he began his career hosting his own series of cooking programmes.

1. Martin Yan clothed in a dragon-patterned robe, playing the part of an emperor

2. Fangshan (Imperial Cuisine) Restaurant featuring imperial cuisine inside Beihai Park is permeated with the atmosphere of an imperial palace.

NEW ROLE AS "EMPEROR" AT HAN AND MANCHURIAN FEAST

His series in China was to be shot in 12 cities and provinces including Beijing, Xi'an, Henan, Shanghai, Zhejiang and Guangdong. In Beijing, shooting would take place on the Great Wall, in the

怀闲水泓

Palace Museum and in Tian'anmen Square, but Fangshan (Imperial Cuisine) Restaurant inside Beihai Park was going to be the main focus.

This restaurant dates back to 1924. After Pu Yi, the last emperor, was driven out of the Forbidden City and the imperial kitchen was dismissed, Zhao Renzhai and his son Zhao Bingnan, who had both served at the vegetable house of the imperial kitchen in the Forbidden City, got together with six cooks from the palace kitchen, including Sun Shaoran, Wang Yushan and Zhao Yongshou to open a restaurant featuring palace delicacies in a rented house on the north bank of the lake in Beihai Park. Now there are several restaurants that call themselves imperial cuisine restaurants, but the one at Yilan (Rippling Wave) Hall in Beihai Park is the most well known. Early on the day of shooting, Martin Yan, donned an emperor's robe embroidered with dragons and arrived in a sedan-chair carried by eight people to enjoy an imperial feast accompanied by his "empress".

POSING BEFORE BEIJING ROAST DUCK

The Complete Feast of Han and Manchurian Delicacies was first conceived during the reign of Emperor Qianlong (1736-1795). During the last years of the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), Empress Dowager Cixi lived an extremely debauched life style, insisting on rare and special delicacies for every meal. Sometimes, a meal consisted of as many as 128 courses, demanding refined and delicate preparations, great varieties, and enriched flavours of imperial cuisine in the Qing palace.

TWO FAMOUS BEIJING DUCK RESTAURANTS

Beijing roast duck is probably as popular as the Complete Feast of Han and Manchurian Delicacies, which visitors to Beijing should not miss. Mr. Yan simply struck a pose before this Beijing roast duck. As a matter of fact, the skill of roasting is not so easy to master!

The Beijing roast duck is a special species called "forced duck" where the ducks have been force-fed a doughy mixture of flour, sorghum, grain, maize and soybean cake to give them the plumpness and tenderness that gourmets require. A well-roasted Beijing duck is shiny, crisp and aromatic but never greasy.

As early as during the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911), there were several restaurants in Beijing which specialized in roast duck. Top restaurants serving Beijing roast duck are the Qianmen Roast Duck Restaurant and its branches, and Bianyifang Roast Duck Restaurant.

Translated by Huang Youyi
Photos & Text by Xie Guanghui

1. Modern equipment in the kitchen of Fangshan Restaurant
2. The sesame cake is a must for diners.
3. The Complete Feast of Han and Manchurian Delicacies is the most elaborate meal of the Imperial Cuisine Restaurant.

滿漢全席

1

JAY COCHRANE'S TIGHTROPE WALK ACROSS THE YANGTSE GORGE

The First Aerialist to Cross Kuimen Gate

In 1995, a 600-metre-long steel wire was stretched across Kuimen Gate in the Three Gorges of the Yangtse River. Jay Cochrane was to walk across the wire nearly 400 metres above the river's surface without any safety precautions.

Jay Cochrane, 52, is a Canadian holding a United States Green Card. Captivated at the age of seven by tightrope walking, he began learning the technique in a circus at 14. He created a sensation when he walked across a wire stretched between two 125-metre-high buildings in the early 1970s. From then on, he stood up to one dangerous challenge after another. Novelty and surprise also play a part. He once walked back and forth 41 times across a wire, taking more than four hours and covering a total distance of 3,700 metres. He also created a world record by spending 21 days on a wire, eating, drinking, and even sleeping on it! Not long ago, in the American state of Pennsylvania, he walked along a 540-metre wire sloping from ground level to the top of a 110-metre-high TV tower.

To Cochrane, walking across the

Yangtse Gorge was far more challenging both in terms of height and danger than his previous adventures. It was also the first time he was to test his courage and skill in natural surroundings.

After studying the weather records of the past 60 years, meteorologists chose October 28 as the best day. The forecast was correct and the day turned out to be a fine, halcyon day.

At 9:40 a.m. a helicopter landed on Chijia (Red Armour) Hill opposite the town of Fengjie. As Cochrane climbed out of the chopper and began to walk towards the starting point, two eagles appeared in the sky, hovering above the wire. One glided so close to the wire that it almost landed on it. The spectators were delighted, believing to be a good omen. But they were also worried, what would happen if the eagles came again while the aerialist was on the wire?

At 10:40 a signal flare was sent up

and Cochrane, dressed in blue-and-white sportswear and holding a balancing rod, stepped onto the wire and began to move forward. Hardly had he taken more than a few steps before he quickly backed out – probably to steady his nerve. At 11 o'clock sharp, he mounted the wire again and stepped out steadily.

The spectators on both sides of the river held their breath. Silence reigned. At 11:35, when the aerialist had completed half the distance, he performed a stunt by standing on the wire on one leg. The spectators applauded. He moved much faster to cover the second half of the distance, and the spectators also became more lively and relaxed.

When Cochrane was only a few dozen metres from the opposite bank, he paused in mid-air. Holding the balancing rod in one hand, he removed his sunglasses with the other and wiped away the sweat on his face. Then after moving about 20 metres forward, he paused again, stretching out his left hand and raising his right leg to perform another one-legged stunt. He completed the feat at

11:55, and a new Guinness world record came into being.

Surrounded by flowers, garlands, reporters and spectators, Cochrane said calmly, "It was like completing a work shift." And that was Cochrane.

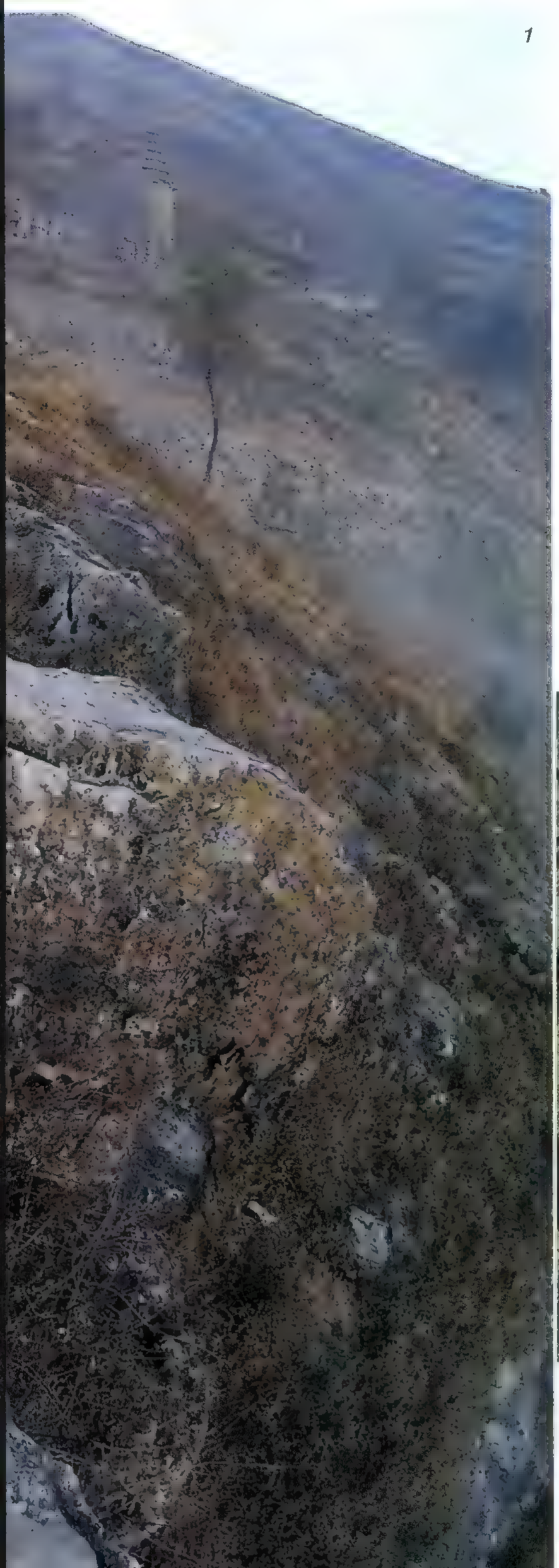
Translated by Tang Bowen
Photos by Zhao Guilin
Article by Huang Yanhong

1. The Aerial Prince created the new Guinness world record without any safety precautions.
2. Cochrane and his admirers at the Cochrane Exhibition held in Fengjie
3. Cochrane strolling along a street in Fengjie after completing the feat
4. The Aerial Prince on the 600-metre-long wire, 400 metres above the river's surface (by Huang Yanhong)

A Famous Grotto in Taihang Mountains

On the Linglü Mountain Ridge in the middle section of the Taihang Mountains, there is a famous grotto temple built in the Northern Qi period (550-577). Phosphorescent lights often shone above the temple at night, and thus it got its name Golden Light Temple.

Starting from Pingshun County town, Shanxi Province through Xingcheng and Yuxia Pass, after many twists and turns you will arrive at the Mountain Gate to the east of the temple.



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The Golden Light Temple is located under a huge protruding cliff to the south on Linglü Ridge, 1,900 metres above sea level. With a cliff at its back and facing a deep valley, the temple is built on a levelled area about 3 to 20 metres wide. Within the Mountain Gate stand seven courtyards, the Lord Guan Temple, bell and drum towers, Celestial Gathering Tower, Longevity Hall and Big Buddha Hall. It is said that originally there was a five-metre-high bronze Buddha statue in the Big Buddha Hall, but it was destroyed in the war of the Japanese aggression. Instead a clay Buddha statue was erected and is now worshipped in the hall. A pair of millstones stand in the front courtyard and a cattle pen in the back courtyard showing that the monks in the temple live a self-sufficient life style.

HEADS OF BUDDHA STATUES DAMAGED

About two dozen grottoes, varying in size, have been cut into the cliff face on three levels to the north of the temple. From the gates of the grottoes on the upper level hang strings of copper windbells, and the lintel of the gate to each grotto is exquisitely carved like a horizontal board usually of the kind seen in temple halls. A thousand Buddha images were originally carved onto the cliff face, but unfortunately most of the heads have been cut open probably by robbers seeking treasure. The patched carvings look disfigured and ugly.

The Water and Land Hall is the largest and the most peculiar grotto. Carved into a square hall it has a window on each side with a total area of 125 square metres. The ceiling of the grotto is flat, and a spring gushes out from stone crevices at the northwestern corner, forming a 30-centimetre-deep clear pond. The other stone walls are carved with more than 80 relief murals depicting Buddhist stories. A J-shaped stone bridge allows visitors to walk across the pond to see the burning joss sticks. In front of the hall stand two carved pillars, and in the centre are a fan-shaped stone wall and a Buddhist altar. Buddhist images are carved on the wall and at the back of the Buddhist altar. Even the caisson ceiling is carved with a few dozen Buddhist images in two layers, some done in relief, some sculpture and others by engravings. It was the first man-carved temple grotto I had ever seen.

1. The Golden Light Temple stands by a perilous cliff (by Huo Wei).
2. The vivid and true-to-life Buddhists in relief carving

BUILDING MATERIALS CARRIED BY SHEEP

Stone balustrades outside the ancient temple give a bird's-eye view of the northern Hebei plains under the cliff. We were told that the fields and roads at the foot of the mountain are clearly visible only on a fine day after a rainstorm. Very often in summer, it is possible to see the clouds moving swiftly around the waist of the mountain when a thunderstorm is due to approach further down the mountain.

Out of the Mountain Gate, down a small path to the southeast for about 200 metres, you may find a narrow passageway cut into a natural crevice between two adjacent cliffs, which is called Monkey Ladder. On the "ladder" is a stone platform of a dozen square metres. The "ladder" is cut into the stone platform and the crevice is only one metre wide. Stepping onto the platform, one feels shaky and dizzy. The turning-point "Nose Ridge" is extremely narrow without any rails. Outside is a sheer precipice and you will feel scared if it is your first time. After passing the "Stone Gate", you can step down along the "ladder" to a flat platform at the foot of the cliff. We were told that when the Golden Light Temple was being built, all the bricks and tiles were carried up the mountain on the backs of sheep but only on cloudy or misty days so that the sheep could not see too far ahead and be scared!

Translated by M.Q.

Photos & Article by Shan Xiaogang

1. The Water and Land Hall, the largest and most peculiar grotto in the Golden Light Temple
2. On the stone walls inside the Water and Land Temple the upper level is carved with sculptures of Buddha, Bodhisattva and Arhat images and with reliefs of water, landscapes and Buddhist figures on the lower part.
3. Welcoming you at the temple gate is a stone Buddha (by Huo Wei).
4. The South Heavenly Gate, a natural grotto to the north of the Golden Light Temple
5. The carved stone tomb pagodas in the Golden Light Temple

4

5

Tourist Guide for the Golden Light Temple

It is quite a distance from Shanxi to the Golden Light Temple, but the road is flat and safe. On the way you may enjoy the ancient pass through the Taihang Mountains and see the life style of the mountain people. More adventurous is the journey from Henan with wonderful views of the Taihang Mountains from the Linzhou Basin, and an unexpected surprise awaits you if you climb the mountain there. Roads lead to the gate of the temple both from Shanxi and Henan, but it is wise to take a jeep instead of a car since road conditions near the temple are quite bad.

Enjoy the mountain flowers if you are travelling in spring, watch the clouds in summer, admire the maple leaves in autumn and stamp in the snow in winter. Of course, autumn and summer are the best seasons in which to visit. We suggest tourists take the train to Anyang, Henan Province and contact the tourist office in Linzhou. You may climb the mountain to the temple in early morning and return after lunch. Lodging at the Linglü Mountain Hotel is available and is run by the city government.

Linzhou Tourist Office

Address: 26 Renmin Road, Linzhou, Henan
Tel: 03822-682376

Moving Art on the Beach — The Works of Crabs

After the tide has ebbed, patterns such as autumn chrysanthemums, flying saucers and running rabbits suddenly appear on the smooth, calm Old Stone Man Beach in Qingdao, Shandong. These patterns of art are constantly changing, expanding and increasing in number, and soon they dotted the whole beach. By which time the patterns no longer become distinct. If you look carefully you will find that these masterpieces are formed by tiny balls of sand all of a uniform size. You may wonder who or what has created these sand balls and these pieces of moving art.

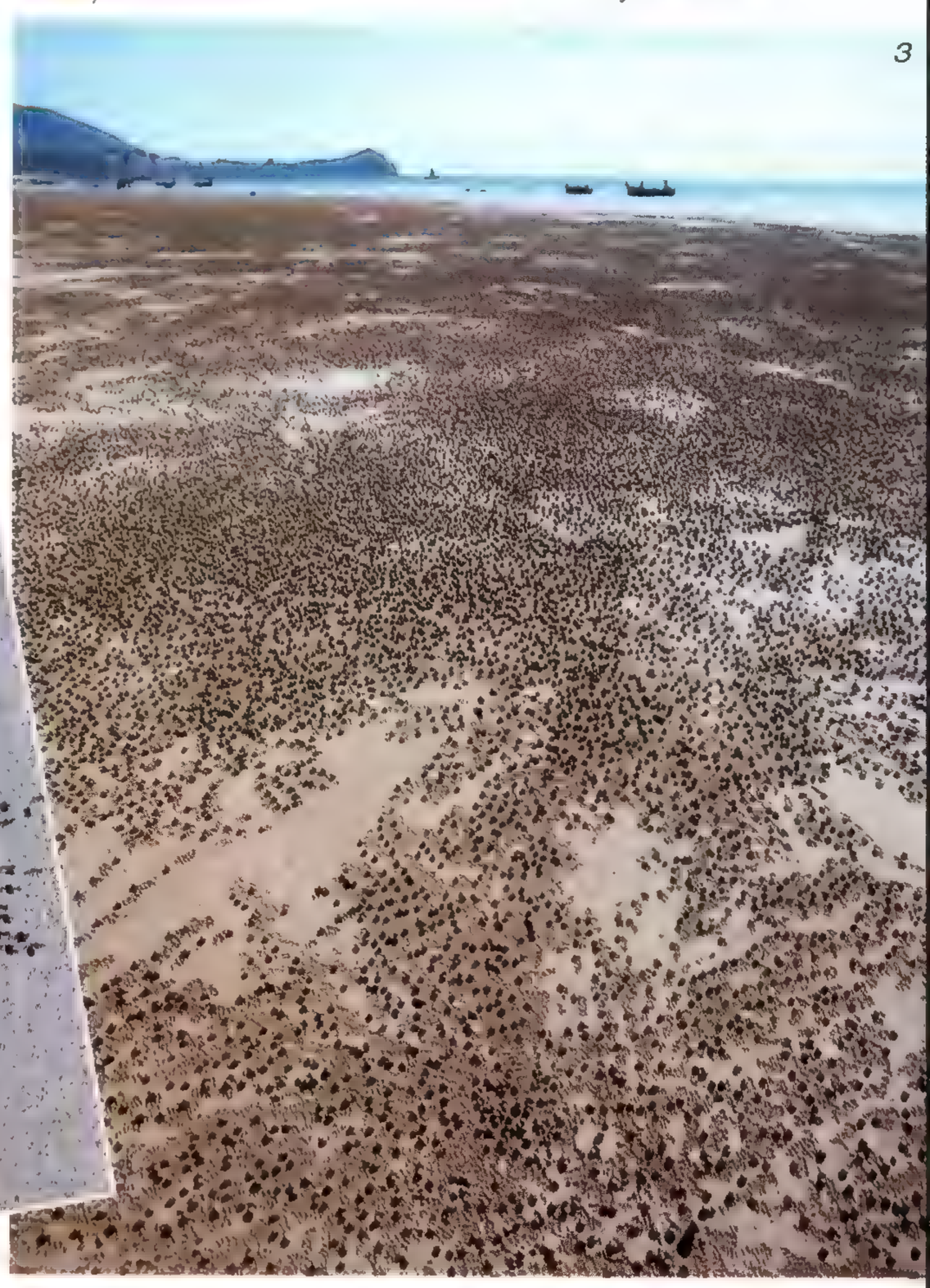
A tiny hole, a few millimetres in diameter, caught my attention because a small creature disappeared into it.

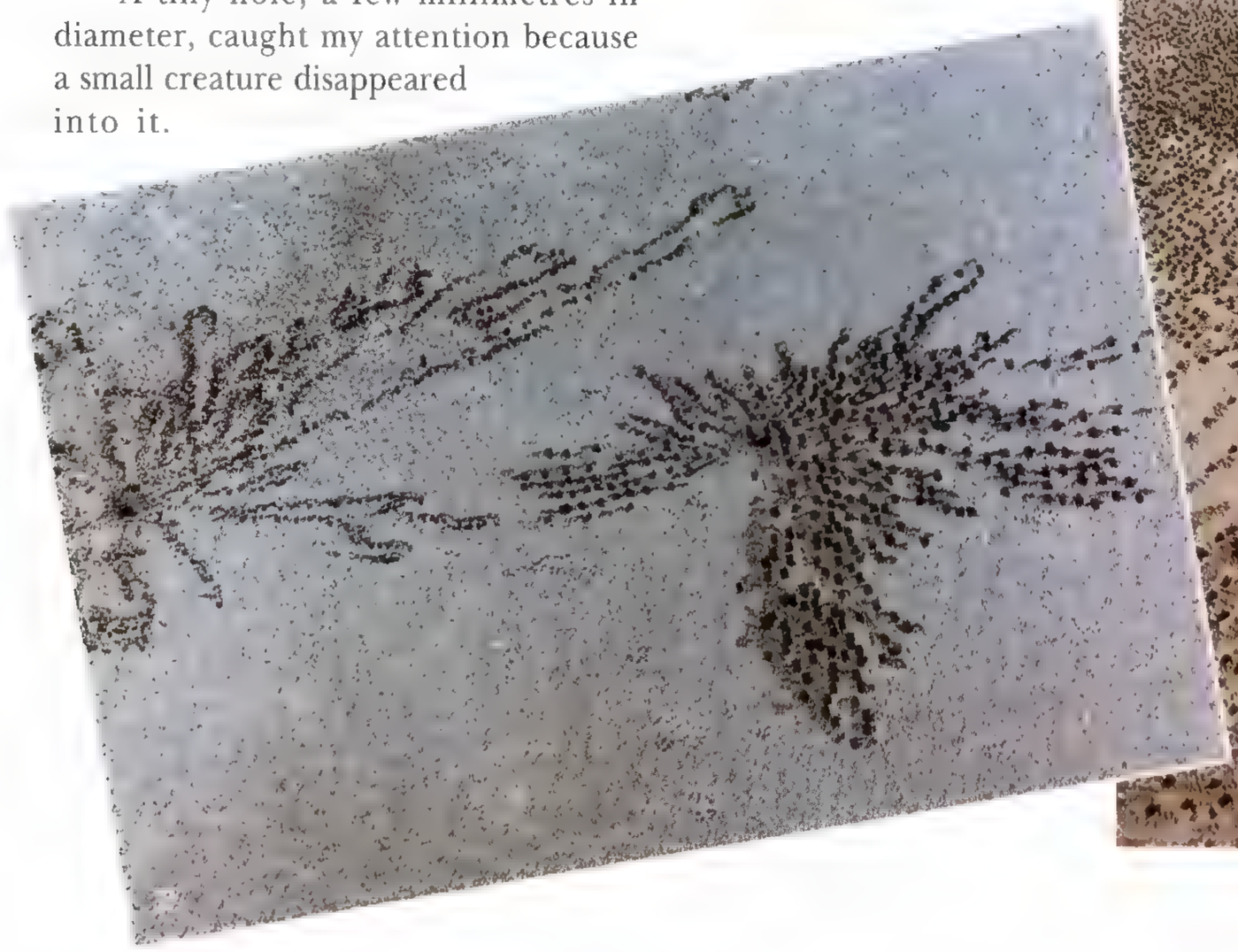
Not long afterwards, a piece of sand was lifted out of the hole, and then another.... Finally the small creature re-appeared. It was a tiny crab. It pushed the sand away from the mouth of the hole and then started to work on the ground. It swiftly moved its pincers, gathering sand to its bosom. After two or three minutes, a ball of sand about the same size as its own body was formed and thrown out. Then it began to make another one....

Seeing that small creature, merely the size of a rice grain, working so hard, all its work soon to be washed away by the tide, I couldn't help wondering, what was its purpose?

Translated by M.Q.
Photos & Text by Ren Xihai

1. A tiny crab appears from a hole and begins its creation.
2. Some patterns look like variegated butterfiles.
3. In an instant small sand balls have covered the whole beach.





Funeral at the Foot of Ailao Mountain

Finally I started to carry out my long-cherished plan to visit Ailao Mountain on the eve of the Spring Festival.

I first went to Gasa Township in Xinping County, Yuxi District, 300 kilometres south of Kunming, Yunnan Province.

In the early morning, mist rose like a jade belt from the foot of Ailao Mountain. The hamlet I was to visit was hidden in the drifting mist. As I entered the gate of the hamlet, the first thing that came into view was the long white elegiac cloth banners hung from the roof of a house. No doubt, that was the place where the funeral would take place. I went nearer and saw several men in white mourning dress, each wearing a sheet of white cloth on their head and a long sword at their waist, and the women were dressed in their Dai best.

The body of the deceased had been enshrouded and placed on the second floor of the house. Many white cloth ribbons were hung in front of the coffin. It was rather dim in the room. By the fluttering candle light I found an old woman sitting with her back to the door. She was sobbing in a low voice....

All of a sudden, a peal of firecrackers was heard outside. A long procession of people holding elegiac banners and red umbrellas came to pay their respects. As they entered the gate of the hamlet, they handed over their offerings of oxen, pigs and chickens to the family members of the deceased. Then they came to the front of the house, planted the elegiac banners on the roof and went into the house sobbing. The 20 or so well-dressed women outside the house began to slaughter the oxen, pigs and chickens that the visitors had just brought. The meat was immediately sent to a nearby open area, where five large cauldrons were set up over big fires, smoke rising in all directions.

Mourners came one after another, a large crowd of several hundred people soon gathered inside and outside the house, most of them being women. A few well-dressed women moved about the crowd distributing white cloth ribbons that were to be worn at the funeral.

1. A deceased's dutiful son keeping vigil beside the bier
2. People entering the mourning hall

A few hours later, all the mourners were invited to dinner around the large cauldrons. They sat in three rows, face to face, with the food placed on rice straw between them. Most interestingly, when they ate, all men were seated and all women stood. This was perhaps because the women's costumes prevented them from sitting down.

After dinner came the grand ceremony of a funeral procession. Walking at the forefront of the procession were *suona* players and gong and drum beaters followed by the sobbing family members. After them were grandchildren of the deceased holding seven large red umbrellas, and the bearers of elegiac banners and mourners. At the rear of the procession was the coffin carried by eight strong men. The entire procession, about 200 metres long, marched towards the foot of the Ailao Mountain amidst firecrackers, *suona* music and the sound of drums and gongs. On the way several well-dressed women scattered rice to the coffin, while the deceased's filial sons held burning torches made of dry grass. The whole procession looked very grand and solemn as it marched forward.

When the coffin reached the cemetery, all the mourners left, only the kinsfolk of the deceased and those who would help with the burial remained. They first started by fixing the location of the tomb — a young man placed an egg on top of his head and let it roll to the ground. If the egg broke, it meant the deceased liked the place; if the egg didn't break, it meant the dead did not. Consequently the egg broke. When the location was fixed, they began to dig the coffin pit. The pit was not deep, about 40 centimetres. After the digging was finished, they first scattered rice and sprinkled wine into the pit and then threw a cock which was called the "Coffin Guarding Cock" to the pit. Amidst the yelling of the people at the edge of the pit, the cock flapped and ran away (it is said to be very auspicious if someone can catch the fleeing cock on the spot). Then a man carried over a large bowl of oil and placed it in the middle of the pit. People placed firewood and the coffin on top of the bowl of oil, the eldest son of the deceased then personally lit the oil. When the flames came up, a robust young man wielded an axe to hack open the two ends and side of the coffin and dragged the deceased's personal effects from it to put them onto the fire. Instantly, the flames rose up along the coffin from one end to the other. The kinsfolk of the deceased put other articles of daily use such as a bamboo hat and umbrella which the dead had used when alive onto the fire to burn them with the coffin. All the while, a few women waved red umbrellas over the burning coffin....

The burning flames grew higher and higher with curling grey smoke floating along in the breeze. Meanwhile, another fire was built at a place near by, and all the funeral banners and streamers were burned to ashes.

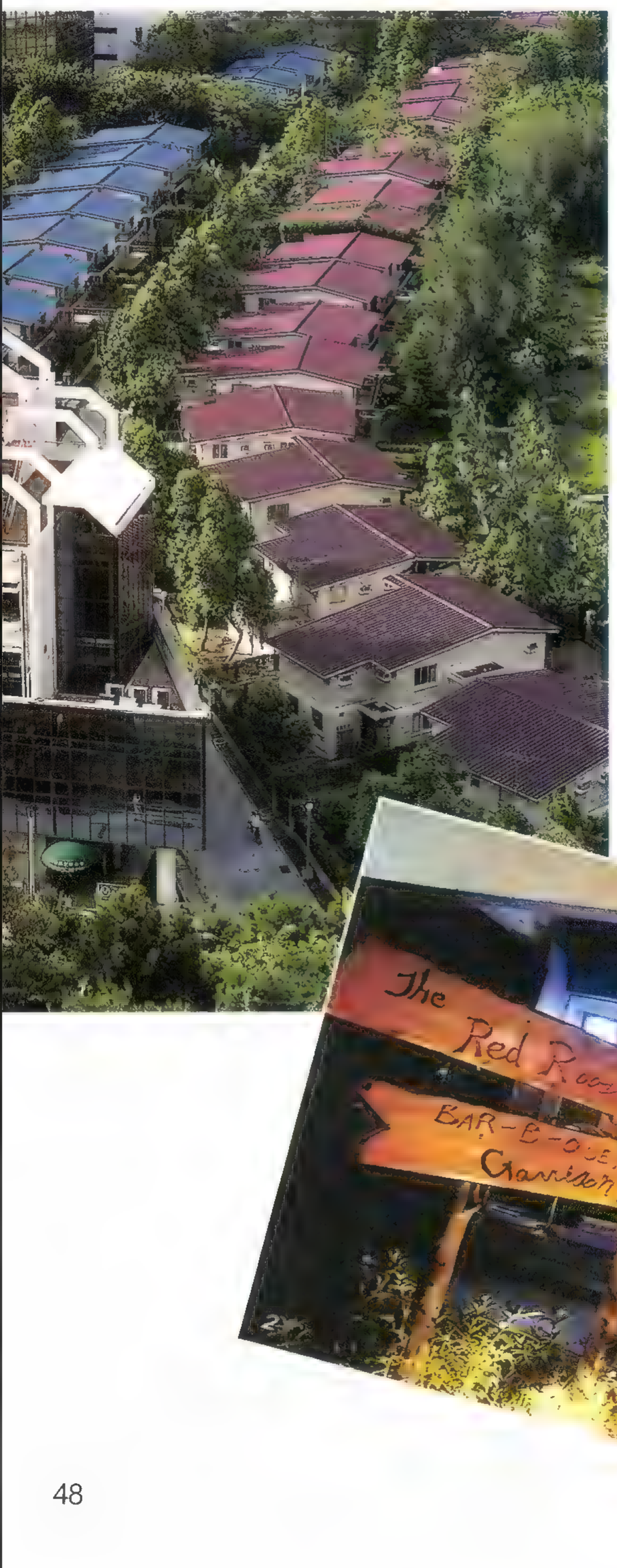
While the coffin was still burning, people began to leave, only the deceased's kinsfolk remained at the cemetery. Standing in a circle, they burned paper money and other sacrificial offerings for the dead in silence. Then they returned to the burning coffin to watch their dear departed turn to ashes....

Translated by Xiong Zhenru
Photos & Article by He Kunsheng

1. Mourners eating in the open ground
2. As the coffin catches fire, the eldest son of the deceased places the personal effects of the dead onto the fire.
3. The deceased's children, relatives and friends together burn paper money, grain and other sacrificial offerings for the departed.

2

A Second Lan Kwai Fong – Western-Style Bars in Shenzhen



The narrow lane in Central District, Hong Kong known as Lan Kwai Fong, has become famous in recent years because of its many foreign bars which never fail to attract countless foreign customers.

You may not know it but there is also a "Lan Kwai Fong" in Shekou in Hong Kong's neighbouring Shenzhen. Boarding a hovercraft at the Hong Kong-Macau Ferry Pier in Central, it takes about 40 minutes to arrive at Shekou Ferry. Alongside the ferry pier is the five-star Nanhai Hotel, and beside that are rows of beach villas. Between the hotel and beach villas is a small street lined with a few buildings full of bars.

AMERICAN-STYLE

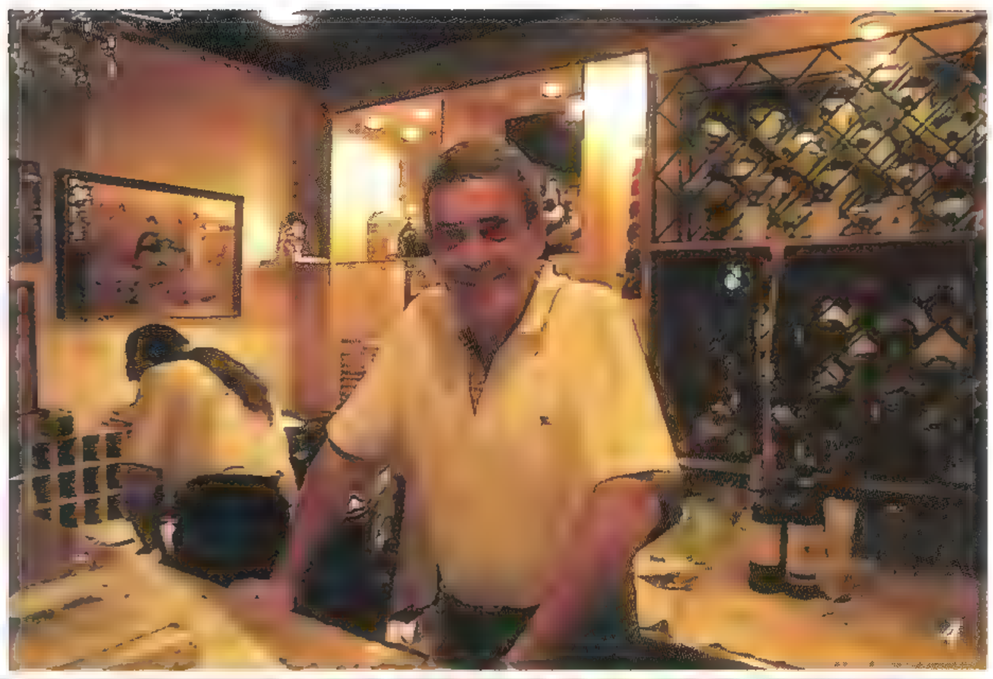
As night falls, neon lights cast colours onto the signboards of the bars. By the roadside stands a wooden stake, nailed to it is a wooden board with the letters "Red Rooster" burnt into it. It looks like a road sign one might find on a country highway in the United States. Pushing open the thick wooden door, a scene like one from a Western movie greets you – a high bar, glittering optics, foreign men and women gathered around, chatting over a drink or talking quietly with each other in corners. If it were not for the scuttling Chinese waitresses, you might believe that you were in a foreign country. Decorated in

typical American style, it has an American chef and serves American barbecue-style food.

It has been 16 years since Shekou opened to outside visitors. Today the number of foreign residents in the petroleum business alone is nearly 800; including foreigners in other businesses the total is about 1,000.

NOSTALGIA

Spanish engineer Campos Tortosa and American-Chinese engineer Gao Zhishun both work for a company during the day and manage a bar in the evening. Their bar is uniquely named after the romantic film set during the Second World War, *Casablanca*. Entering the Green Wave Club on the second floor, you will find the "Casablanca Italian Restaurant" has an atmosphere reminiscent of the past and of the countryside. The wooden tables and cane chairs look old but welcoming under the soft lights. In the magazine rack beside the bar you will find Life, Time and other Western magazines familiar to foreign visitors. The beautiful but sad romantic film *Casablanca* of 50 years ago is played again and again on TV sceens and over 200 stage pictures and posters from the movie are hung on the walls. The black and white photos portray the striking elegance and gracefulness of Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart.



BAR HOPPING

These bars are linked together like a chain; you can have a drink at one and then move to the next for a barbecue dinner and yet another for a cup of coffee. Customers are seen leaving the disco at Joe Banana's to dance rock and roll at Hammer's which is not spacious but its bold, simple decoration and good atmosphere is convivial to consuming several jars of beer while raising one's voice to talk over the loud music.

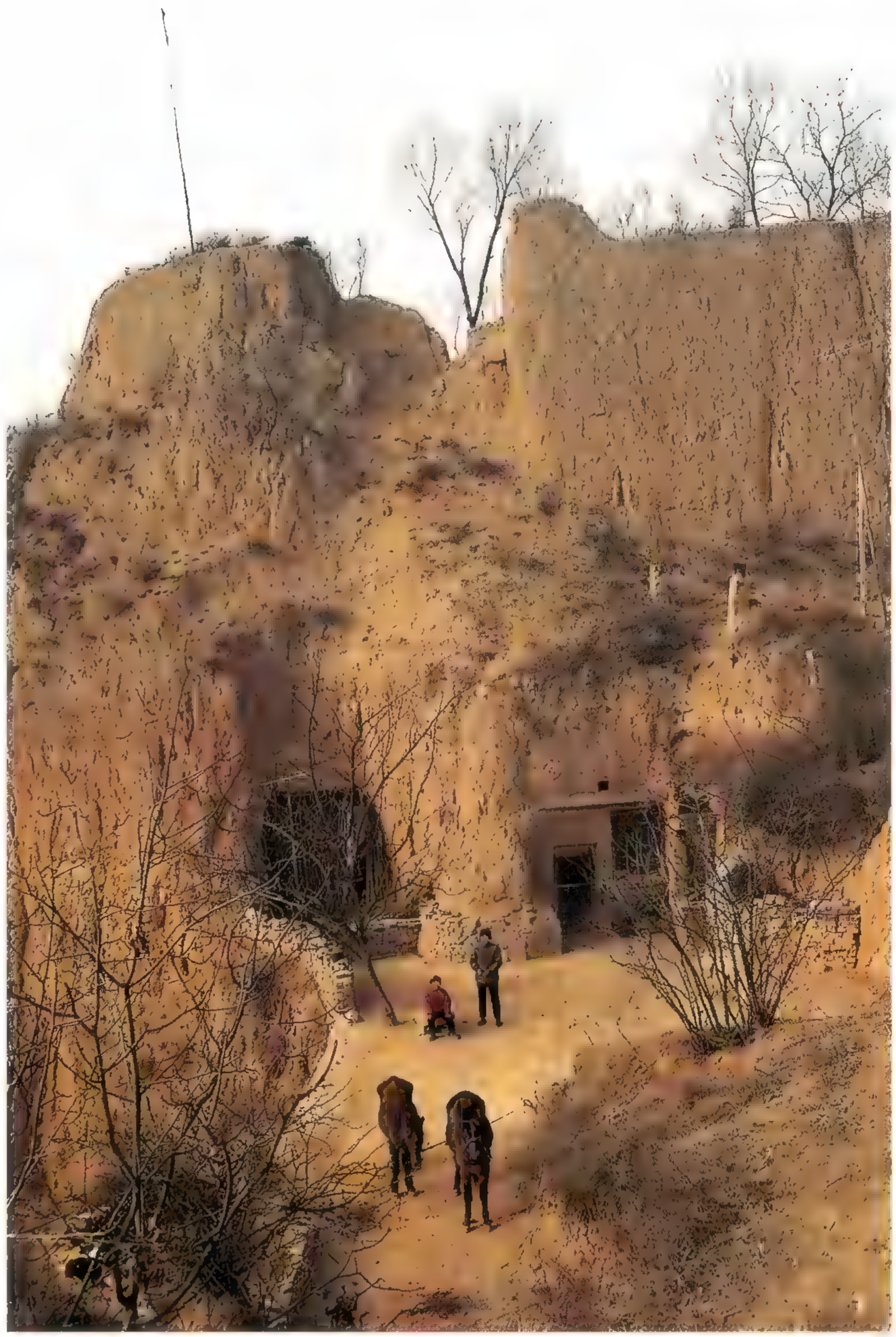
The quieter bars are the Japanese and Korean bars like "Yamataya", "Yumiki", "Hakone" and "Kim Taimin Buckwheat House". There is also a Hennessy Bar formed by a private club.

Of course, not all the customers at "Lan Kwai Fong" are foreigners. Many Chinese, especially the younger people, like to go to the bars occasionally. Some of them go there for the language culture and others want to experience the foreign atmosphere.

Translated by M.Q.
Photos by Zhang Xinmin
Text by Wang Xiaoming & Zhang Xinmin

1. At the juncture of the hotel and beach villas lies the 300-metre-long street where Shenzhen's Lan Kwai Fong is located.
2. The eye-catching signboard of a bar
3. The decorative door to one of the bars (by Shi Bao Xiu)
4. Working for an engineering company during the day, Campos Tortosa, a Spaniard, manages a bar at night with his partner, Gao Zhishun, an American-Chinese.
5. Foreigners chatting at a bar in the Lan Kwai Fong of Shenzhen

An Ancient Fortress at Zhangbi, *Shanxi*



On the loess hills along the Mianshan Mountain some 10 kilometres southeast of Jiexiu City, Shanxi Province, stands a well-preserved and ancient military stronghold – the ancient fortress at Zhangbi.

Standing atop the northern gate tower, I found that the fortress had been built high in the south and low in the north making use of the terrain thereby creating an irregular square shape. The fortress is guarded on three sides by ditches and a hill on the fourth. It is apparent that the earthen fortress was easy to defend but difficult to take.

REBUILT IN THE MING DYNASTY

I learned that the fortress was used to give shelter to soldiers and to store grain. No one can tell for sure the exact date of construction but the present structure was rebuilt in 1559, during the Ming Dynasty. Surrounded by walls of rammed yellow earth, the fortress is only 0.12 square kilometres in area. A black and red stone-paved street, about 300 metres long, stretches from the T-shaped gate in the north all the way to the slope rising in the south. The street is lined with stores, residential houses, tall, old locust trees and tower gates at each entrance to the small lanes running east to west. The Xichang Lane used to be the drill ground for the military, and the lanes named the Wangs, Jins and Jias were once where the big mansions of men with money stood. In each lane, there was a deep well with a wooden winch used for fetching water and for fighting fires.

The fortress also has a south gate.

Temples were usually built at the north and south gates of the fortress according to the traditions of ancient architecture. To the north of the north gate's barbican entrance is a temple dedicated to the God of Erlang and the temple's function then was to ward off the wind, store water and avoid all disasters. Walking along the path atop the barbican entrance and passing the Ancestor Lü's Pavilion, I came to the three major temples to the north of the gate of the main fortress. Here, a bell tower and a drum tower stand in front of the temples. In the centre stands the Hall of Zhenwu, in the east the Kongwang Buddha Palace and in the west the Hall of Three Sages.

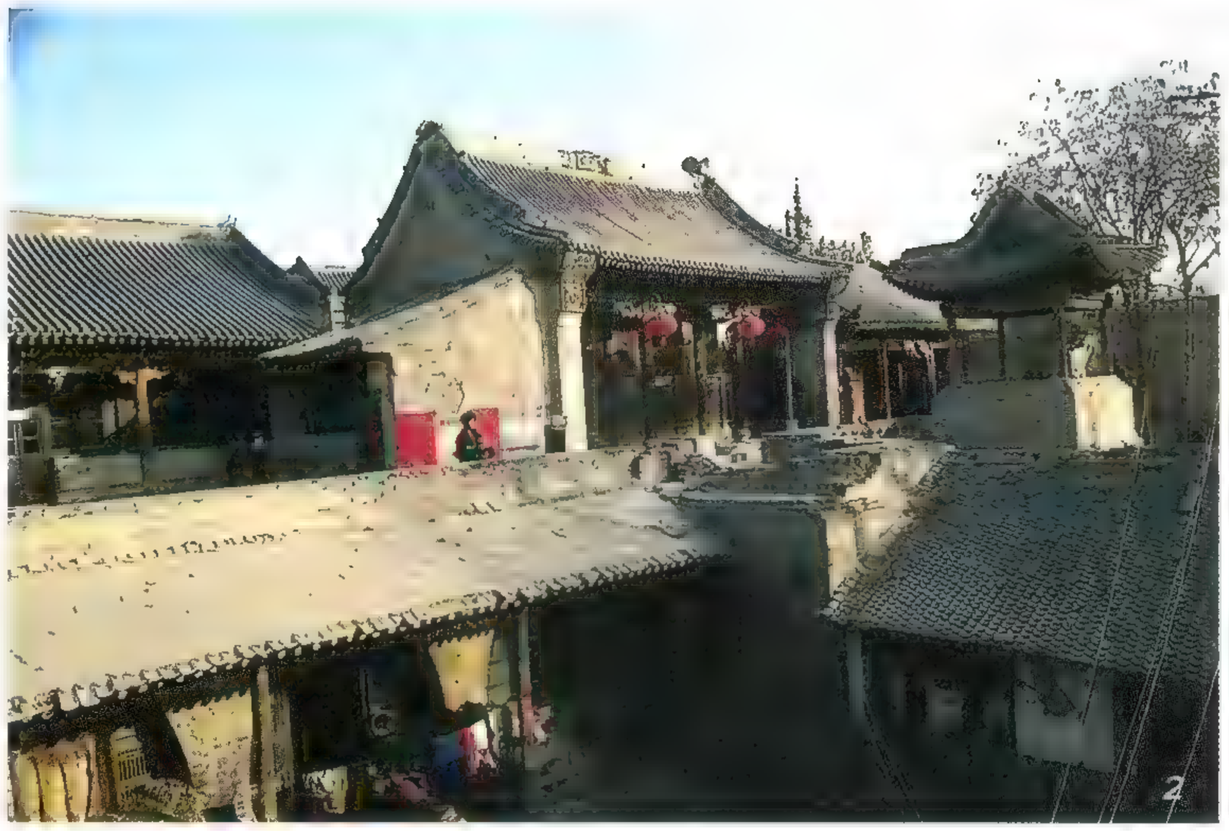
THE TANG-DYNASTY KONGWANG BUDDHA PALACE

Of the three temples, the Kongwang Buddha Palace is the most intact. The meticulous statues of Kongwang Buddha and two other Bodhisattvas, built during the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), still stand. It is no small wonder that they have been so well preserved in a village fortress to this day. The tri-colour glazed animals, figures, pavilions and the two glazed tablets in the corridor in front of the hall are real treasures. In the hall, there is an elegant, coloured wooden tower which was used to pray for rain in the Mianshan Mountain during the Tang Dynasty. Thus it is one of the treasures of the village.

The stone archway in the south was rebuilt during the Ming Dynasty. The spacious Temple of Guan Yu facing the gate consists of the main hall, a sacrifice offering hall and a music tower. The newly erected coloured statues of Lord Guan Yu and his guards and the murals describing his merits attract a great number of worshippers. Near the south gate, a path paved with bricks and stones leads up to a courtyard with buildings on four sides, known as the Geda Temple, complete with a main hall, side rooms, drum and bell towers, auxiliary halls and a theatre. The tiles on the main hall are said to be originals of the Song Dynasty, which give an idea of the long history of the temple.

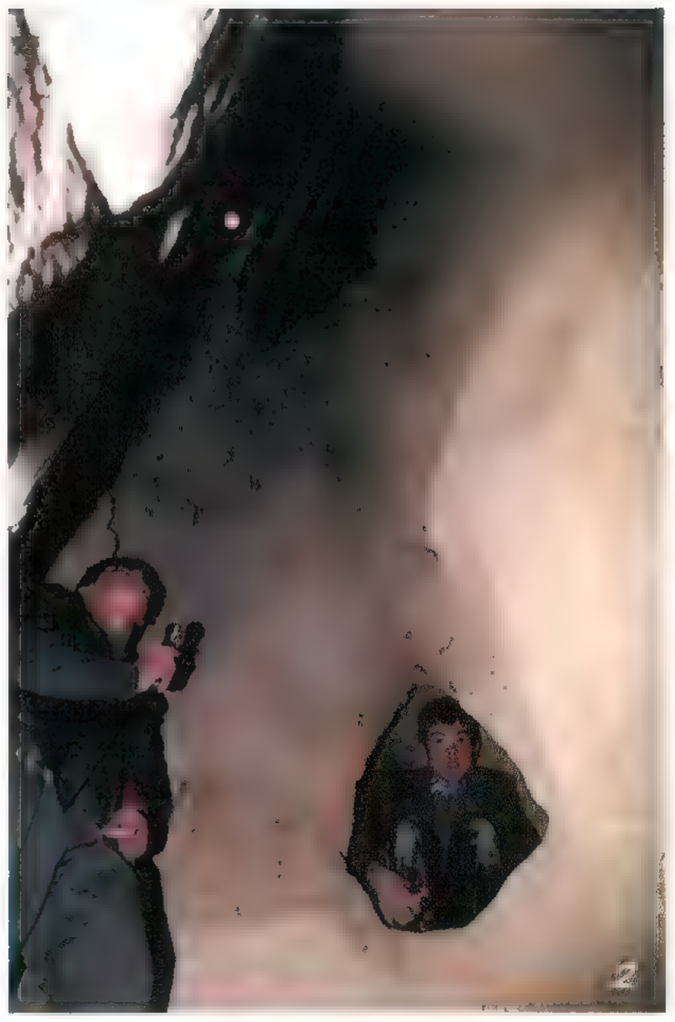
THE 1,300-YEAR-OLD MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Most intriguingly a network of well-preserved underground tunnels exist



1. The well-preserved ancient fortress wall was built with rammed yellow earth following the cliff's natural topography.
2. The three temples on the tower of the T-shaped northern gate
3. Many small lanes radiate from the main street. Marching here are villagers performing during the Lantern Festival.
4. The north gate of the ancient fortress at Zhangbi, built with a barbican entrance

below the fortress. We lifted a cover in the east auxiliary hall in the Geda Temple and went down to explore. From what has been discovered of the tunnels we learned that there are three levels interconnected at regular intervals which allowed for good communication and observation. On the upper level, the horse stables and troughs were housed. On the middle level, at regular intervals, there were barracks for soldiers. The lower level contained many granaries for storing food. Observation posts and command headquarters were interlinked by passages so that orders could be passed



on. Ventilation holes between the tunnels and the ground surface provided fresh air and they were also linked to the water wells. Inside the well walls are openings into which a plank could be placed allowing access to the opposite tunnel or to enable water to be fetched. According to preliminary studies, the tunnels were dug more than 1,300 years ago in 617 during the Sui Dynasty.

LANTERN FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

Climbing out of the tunnels, we were struck by the thunderous sound of gongs, drums, bugles and firecrackers. The villagers were celebrating the Lantern Festival and while the women were performing the traditional *yangko* dance the men were acting as "doll carriers", "boat rowers" and "sedan-chair carriers". What was new for me was to see men dancing with an iron frame on their backs. The dolls were tied onto the frame so that they appeared to "dance" on their back. Obviously the villagers in this ancient fortress were having a good time.

Translated by Huang Youyi
Photos & Article by Shan Xiaogang

Tourist Information

Lying approximately 120 kilometres away from Taiyuan, capital of Shanxi Province, the city of Jiexiu enjoys easy access as it is joined with the No. 108 State Highway in the south and intersected by the Datong-Yuncheng Highway. Visitors may take the No. 585 train which leaves Taiyuan for Jiexiu. The ancient fortress at Zhangbi is about 10 kilometres southeast of the city. Return to the city to see Houtu Temple which is a gem of ancient architecture, the Xuanshen Tower, the Qin-dynasty cypress known as the "Number One Cypress in China" and the shops and residential houses in the older section of Jiexiu. A train service returns to Taiyuan in the evening. One can spend the night at Jiexiu Guest House in order to see the Mianshan Mountain some 20 kilometres southwest of Jiexiu. The natural grace of the mountain and a host of historical sites make this one of the six major scenic spots in the province. On the way back, one can stop at the ancient fountain at Hongshan. From here, take any of the following trains:

Train No.	Arrival	
	Jiexiu	Taiyuan
376	15:22	17:55
584	16:48	18:22
586	17:19	20:36
374	19:59	22:33

1. The only north-south street in the fortress, and the 1,000-year-old willow tree embraced by a locust tree which are the focus of many interesting legends
2. The three-tier underground military passageways in Zhangbi Ancient Fortress were built 1,300 years ago during the Sui Dynasty.
3. The meticulously-made and well-preserved Buddha statues in the Kongwang Hall. The one in the centre is the Kongwang Buddha.
4. This well once supplied people and cattle with drinking water and water to extinguish fire.
5. In front of the Kongwang Buddha Palace, a rare and precious glazed tablet of the Ming Dynasty records the process by which Kongwang Buddha cultivated and constructed Kongwang Buddha Palace.

SIMPLE WORKS OF ART FULL OF RUSTIC CHARM

Yijun Farmer Paintings in Northern Shaanxi

Yijun is situated on the Loess Plateau in Northern Shaanxi in the centre of the Yellow River Valley, the birthplace of ancient China's culture. It was once a flourishing region several thousand years ago as a result of the many changes which took place, ranging from the unification of the country during the Qin Dynasty to the prosperity of culture in the Tang Dynasty.

But this changed with the decline of the Ming Dynasty; the implementation of the closed-door policy at the beginning of the Qing Dynasty, through to natural and man-made calamities in more modern times. And so, this land of yellow earth has gradually become a sparsely populated region with few transport facilities. Isolated from the outside world, the local people had almost no cultural exchange with outsiders. On the other hand, it was difficult for alien cultures to enter and interfere. For this reason the Han and Tang-dynasty cultures in the ancient resurgent period were kept fairly well intact in this region.

Such a definite geographical environment mixed with historical conditions have bestowed the Yijun people with a simple and honest nature and the special aesthetic interests of farmers in northern China. Paintings created by the Yiyun farmers have inherited the traditions of their rich ancient culture and therefore are very traditional and regional. With a distinct style of primitive simplicity and crudeness, these paintings have a lasting artistic appeal.

In recent years, their paintings are seen to characterize the essence of the Loess Plateau and embody the traditional artistic style of the Chinese nation. The Yijun farmer paintings have aroused the attention of specialists from both Chinese and foreign art circles with their great vitality, distinct national flavour and unique artistic style. Yijun is known as the "Home of Modern Folk Painting".

Translated by Xiong Zhenru
Photos by Shan Xiaogang
Text by Sun Xiangwu

Raising Ducks

In a composition completely free from the restrictions of time and space, the painter's ideas are fully expressed.

(Painted by Wang Zhuqin)

Visiting Maternal Home

This painting reflects the life and customs of the mountain people in northern Shaanxi. In a slack season a young woman, holding a child in her arms, rides a donkey to visit her mother. Her husband drives the donkey to escort her along, while humming a northern Shaanxi folk song. A little dog joins in the fun by running back and forth, while birds fly freely in the sky. The painting is full of rustic simplicity.

(Painted by Meng Runfeng)

Walking on Stilts

This painting captures a lively scene celebrating the Spring Festival in the countryside in northern Shaanxi.

(Painted by Tian Yali)

Husking Millet

By shaking off the yoke of perspective theory, the painter turns the static into motion. From many visual angles and through succinct technical skill it represents exactly the way the donkey waves its head back and forth while pulling the stone roller and how the people turn to look round as they load the millet.

(Painted by Wang Xiuqing)

Exploring the Dêgê *Scripture* Printing House

• The Dêgê Scripture Printing House is the only remaining treasure house of Tibetan Buddhist culture.

• In the well-kept storeroom there are as many as 217,000 scripture printing woodblocks.

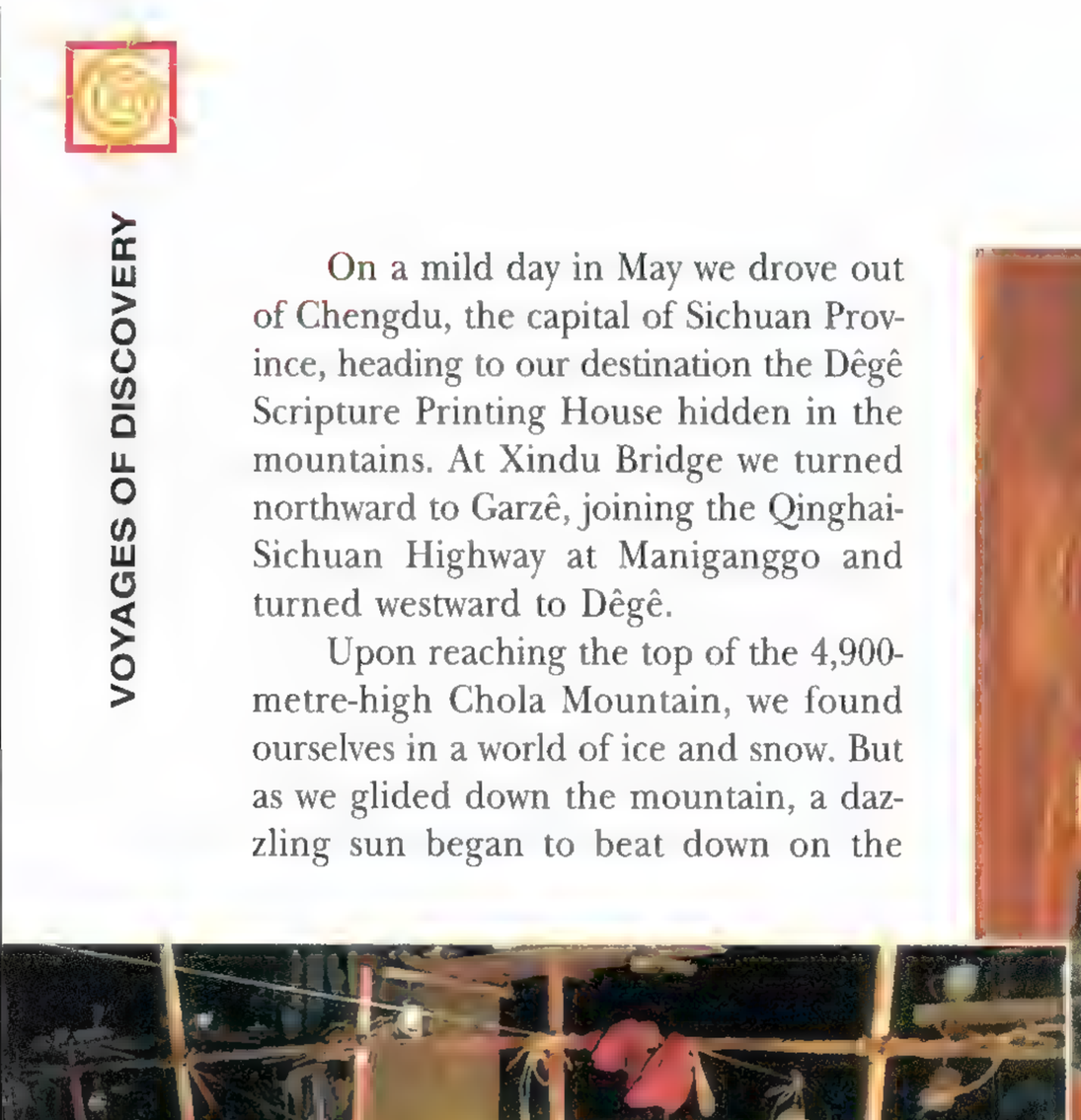
• As a result of long years working with the small and delicate characters of the woodblocks, the carvers' backs have become somewhat hunched. Particularly the older carvers.

• In the minds of Western Buddhist believers only the Buddhist scriptures printed at Dêgê are "genuine scriptures".

1. The carved pillars and painted rafters of the Dêgê Scripture Printing House
2. Printing is done by hand by a team of two (by Xue Huake).

On a mild day in May we drove out of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, heading to our destination the Dêgê Scripture Printing House hidden in the mountains. At Xindu Bridge we turned northward to Garzê, joining the Qinghai-Sichuan Highway at Maniganggo and turned westward to Dêgê.

Upon reaching the top of the 4,900-metre-high Chola Mountain, we found ourselves in a world of ice and snow. But as we glided down the mountain, a dazzling sun began to beat down on the snow, melting it into sludge. As the road became more difficult, we had to drive more slowly.

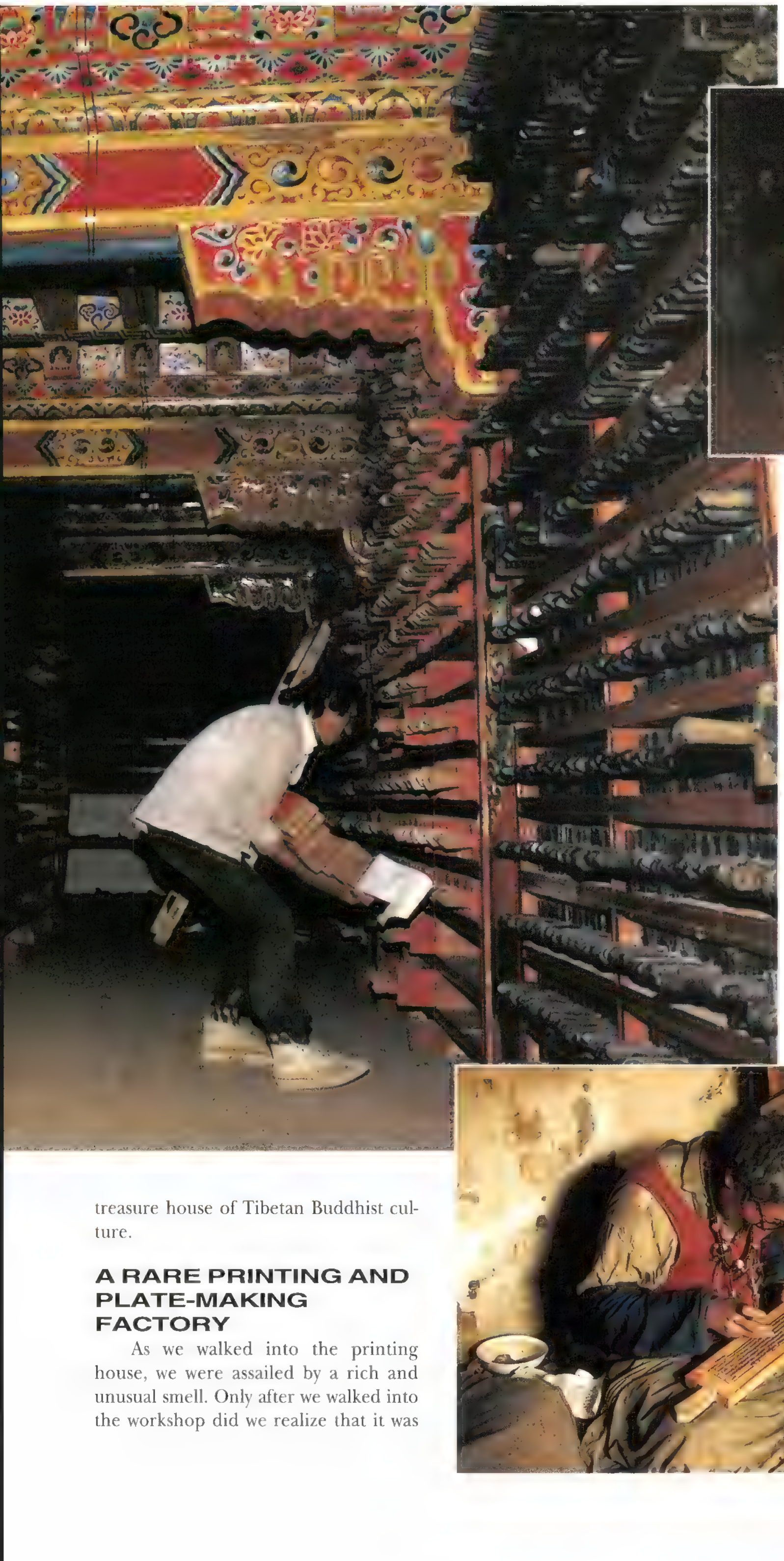


A GRAND GATHERING AT ZHUQING LAMASERY

After a journey lasting four days, we eventually arrived at Dêgê, an ancient town full of culture inhabited by Tibetans and separated from Tibet itself by the Jinsha (Golden Sand) River, which flows close by the town wall. That evening, we found there were an unusually large number of lamas in town and were told that a famous Tulku had arrived from India to give a lecture on scriptures. Many lamas and followers had travelled over 100 kilometres to hear the lectures.

The following day, accompanied by our hosts, we visited Zhuqing Lamasery where the Tulku was to give his lectures. We were happy our arrival coincided with the large Buddhist gathering enabling us to witness an auspicious religious event.

In the afternoon, we took ourselves to the Dêgê Scripture Printing House. Located to the east of the county town in a valley called Oupulong, the printing house is built in a typical Tibetan style. "Scripture pennants" fluttered on the flat roof and the tall reddish-brown walls were relieved by latticed windows conveying an air of mystery. Founded 264 years ago, in 1732, by the 12th-generation headman of Dêgê named Choji Dengbazoren, the full name of the printing house is the Dêgê Scripture Printing House of Auspiciousness and Accumulated Wisdom. The printing house was formerly one of the three great Buddhist scripture printing centres, together with the printing house at Potala Palace in Lhasa and the Natang Scripture Printing House in Xigazê. Since the latter two have been badly damaged and no longer exist, the Dêgê Scripture Printing House has become the only



1. Cinnabar is ground to a fine powder and then mixed with glue to be used as ink for printing (by Xue Huake).
2. Woodblocks are stacked for storage like books in a library
3. Printed scriptures piled high in the scripture storeroom
4. It takes a carver eight to 10 years to complete the woodblocks for a single scripture volume (by Xue Huake).

treasure house of Tibetan Buddhist culture.

A RARE PRINTING AND PLATE-MAKING FACTORY

As we walked into the printing house, we were assailed by a rich and unusual smell. Only after we walked into the workshop did we realize that it was

the combined aroma of hundreds of birch woodblocks, cases of dark ink and reams of paper on which the scriptures were to be printed.

Stepping into the printing house one enters the profound and wonderful world of Tibetan culture. The printing house was larger than we imagined; several dozen large and small rooms, covering a total of about 1,600 square metres in floor space, were used for scripture storage and paper depot. There was also a book-sunning building, woodblock washing terrace, as well as a Buddha's Hall and a scripture hall. The most impressive part of the printing house was its scripture storeroom, which occupied half of the entire building. Stored inside were 217,000 woodblocks carved upon which were the text of Tibetan classics, including translations of Buddhist classics, writings, biographies, books on history, medicine, philosophy, astronomy and art, totalling 600 volumes under 82 different titles. As the woodblocks were double-sided, they represented over 430,000 pages of text and a total of 250 million words. Some of the books were the only extant editions in the world.

THE ONLY EDITION OF AN INDIAN CLASSIC

Stored in the printing house were Buddhist scriptural classics of all the five sects of Tibetan Buddhism – Yellow, White, Red, Black and Mixed. The books printed here are sold to places as far away as India, Nepal, Japan and countries in Southeast Asia and western Europe.

The most surprising collection were the printed editions of Buddhist classics from the Indian Peninsula, including 555 woodblocks of Sakyamuni's writings and the only extant edition of *The Origin of Indian Buddhism*, which has become lost even in India. Examining one of the woodblocks I saw three columns of text in Hindi, Sanskrit and Tibetan respectively, with illustrations on either side of the text. Although the woodblock was already several hundred years old, the words were clearly decipherable and could be readily printed. The "secret" for preserving the woodblocks, we were told, was to smear both sides with butter.

LIFE-LONG DEVOTION

The woodblock carving workshop presented a memorable sight. Old and

1. The red text is printed with cinnabar ink.
2. The scripture printing house prints not only scriptures, but pictures too (by Xue Huake).
3. The printing workshop is located in a long, well-ventilated and bright corridor .

young carvers were bent over their work, some of them stripped to the waist. The muscles of their arms gnarled as a result of long years working the wood-cutting knife, and their faces showed a deep religious devotion. When they rose from their seats, we noticed that their backs had become somewhat hunched; this was particularly true of the older carvers. As the characters carved on the woodblocks were rather small and intricate, it was difficult to image how many woodblocks each carver could complete in his lifetime for the dissemination of the Buddhist truth.

The plate-making and printing processes used at the Dêgê Scripture Printing House are truly an ancient handicraft, these processes would have been used to produce books printed 1,000 years ago, before Bi Sheng invented the letterprint.

SOUGHT AFTER BY FOREIGN BELIEVERS

Despite the fact that the Dêgê Scripture Printing House is located in a remote place, people come here in a steady

stream. During the high Tang period, the famous Chinese monk, Xuan Zang, of Chang'an trekked across the continent to India to obtain Buddhist scriptures, many of which he later translated into Chinese. However, times have changed and today many believers and Buddhist monks from India, Nepal, Bhutan and Sikkim travel through snow-covered mountains and deserts to Dêgê for scriptures. There are also devotees who travel from the United States, Canada, Britain, Germany and Japan. Except for the few scholars who come here to explore and carry out research, most believers consider that only the Buddhist scriptures printed at Dêgê are "genuine scriptures" as unfortunately a large number of pirated editions of Dêgê scriptures are sold on the Buddhist book market. People make the long, arduous journey to Dêgê in order to purchase the "genuine scriptures".

Translated by Tang Bowen
Photos by Lin Jian
Article by Huang Shi

1. A high-ranking monk expounds on scriptures.
2. The walls of the scripture hall are decorated with gorgeous paintings (by Xue Huake).
3. Printers and woodblock carvers reading scriptures in the Buddha's Hall
4. A religious instrument made from a human skull

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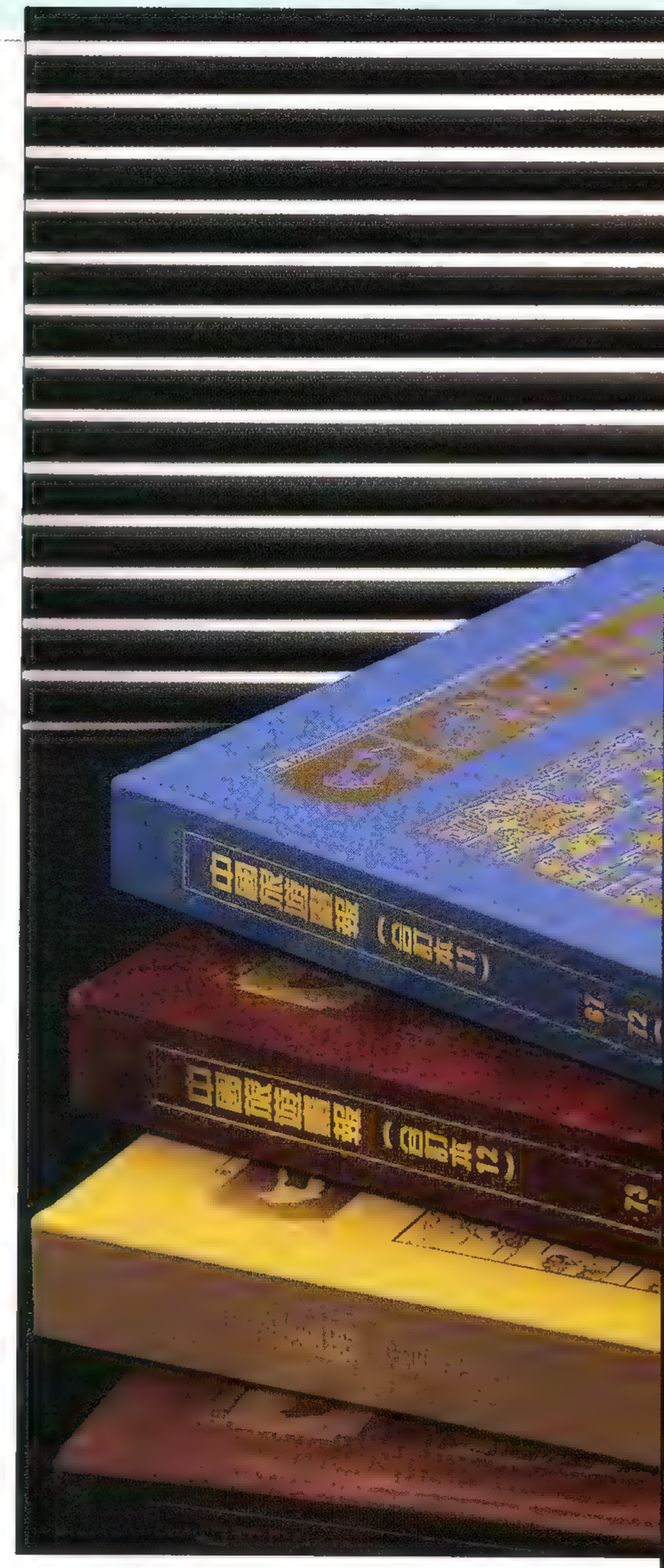

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L U C I D, L I V E L Y K N I F E - W O R K

The Appeal of Han-Dynasty Wood Engravings

Han-dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220) wood engravings can be said to have a unique place in the history of Chinese carvings, and the 100 wooden relics unearthed in Wuwei, in ancient Liangzhou (present-day Gansu and its southern and eastern areas), are fine examples of Han-dynasty wood engravings.

Engravings from this dynasty are usually of human figures or objects crafted by lucid and lively knife-work. They are either in the original colour of the wood or painted on the base colour of white, red or black. In addition to figures, the Han-dynasty wood engravings often portrayed animals and objects closely related to daily life such as the horse, cattle, sheep, dogs, cats, chicken, houses, ox carts, etc. The technical skill used to create animals is very simple, often the shape and features of a pig or a dog are vividly and accurately brought to life by a dozen or so cuts.

Liangzhou was once a place where fine-bred horses were reared.

One-horned Beast, or Tomb Guardian Beast, is so vividly carved that it looks as though it is waiting for an opportunity to launch an attack while also keeping guard against its opponent. The engraver grasps the spontaneity of the beast and brings it out through exquisite technical skill. No wonder this art work, though small and simple, has become one of the best Han-dynasty wood engravings.

In the Han Dynasty, Dawan in the Western Regions produced finely-bred horses. Later the army and civilians of the Han Dynasty imported these horses and bred them in Liangzhou. The horses in this engraving have the features of the Dawan Horse as recorded in history books. The Han-dynasty craftsmen are expert at grasping the important features of a horse engraving them with fine detail while simplifying the others.

The four camels that look as if they have been beheaded. Each head is accurately carved.

Perhaps because the craftsmen lived and worked with horses their creations are particularly lifelike: their heads held high, their tails swishing, ears erect and four hooves planted firmly together, they look sturdy and powerful. Their exaggerated neighing mouths and wide, open eyes bespeak well that they are fine steeds full of vitality.

The figures portrayed in the Han-dynasty wood engravings, apart from being simple and clean, show the style of the Han-dynasty costume. Interestingly, the overcoats worn by men 2,000 years ago are much the same as the fashionable turndown-collar windcoat of today.

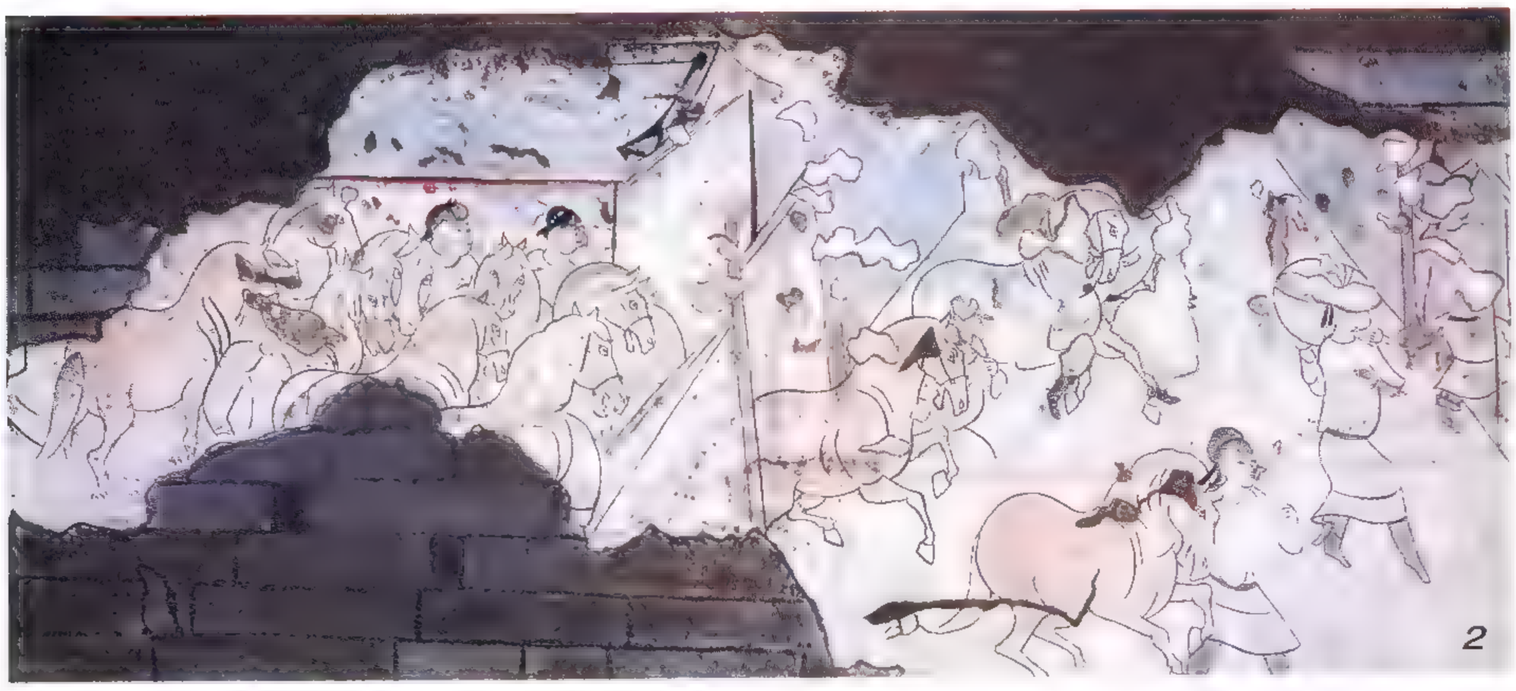
Translated by Xiong Zhenru
Photos by Wang Wenming
Text by Tian Fu

Wooden figurines wearing overcoats. The male depicted is tall and robust while the female looks small and weak. It seems male-chauvinism was a very serious affair in the Han Dynasty. But the figurines' overcoats don't look out-of-date, even today.

This wood engraving from the Wei and Jin periods (220-420) is quite different from the Han-dynasty engraving both in shape and style.

Murals Depicting Country Life

The Tomb of a Tang-Dynasty Prince



Prince Li Shou was a younger brother of Li Yuan, the founder of the Tang Dynasty (618-907). After his death he was buried on the loess plain in Sanyuan County, Shaanxi Province. In 1973 his tomb was unearthed and many historical relics were found, including numerous delicate murals on the grave walls. The murals are still colourful despite their existence of nearly 1,000 years.

Tomb mural paintings had been in great vogue during the Tang Dynasty. As a result this type of painting became an essential variety of fine art in the dynasty. Descriptions varied according to the different social status of the tomb occupants. For example, in the tombs of princes and princesses the murals portray mostly the luxuriant and easy palace life of the occupants before their death, as seen in the murals entitled the "Palace Maids" found in the tomb of Princes Yongtai, "Polo Game" and "Guests Greeting" in the tomb of Prince Zhanghuai and the "Guard of Honour" in the tomb of Prince Yide.

However, in this tomb of the emperor's younger brother, the murals surprisingly appear to depict common country life. The group of murals, though in a state of decay, have retained some rare human scenes: the hostess of a compound nursing a baby in her arms is seen sitting in a hall, while some maid servants carry water, or turn a millstone with chickens pecking in the courtyard; others are carrying out household chores in a side room. It is without doubt a typical picture of a peaceful, happy country life. This perhaps has something to do with the early life of the tomb occupant.

The group of murals entitled "Stable", also found in this tomb, reveals itself as no ordinary stable, judging by the amount of horses and grooms. The images of figures and horses are rendered with flowing, concise lines and are exceptionally vivid. The whole rendition bestows a rich air of common daily life: some of the grooms lead horses by their reins, some carry fodder on their backs.... One seems to be able to hear the neighing of the animals.

Translated by K. V. Ku
Photos by Yang Limin
Text by Tian Fu

1. "Country Life", a group of murals found in the tomb of the Tang-dynasty Prince Li Shou
2. "Stable" found in the same tomb

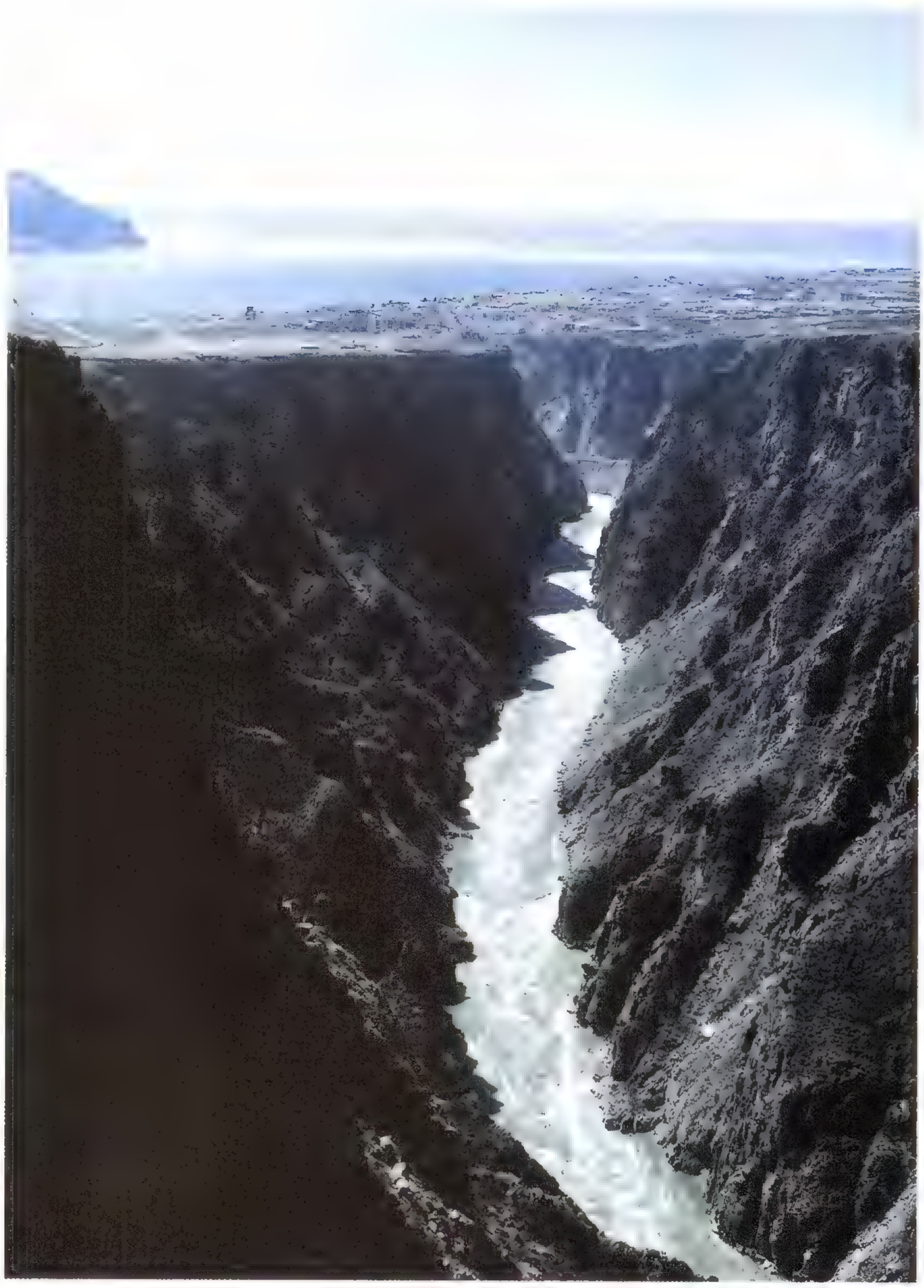
Longyang
A Gorge at the Source of the Yellow River

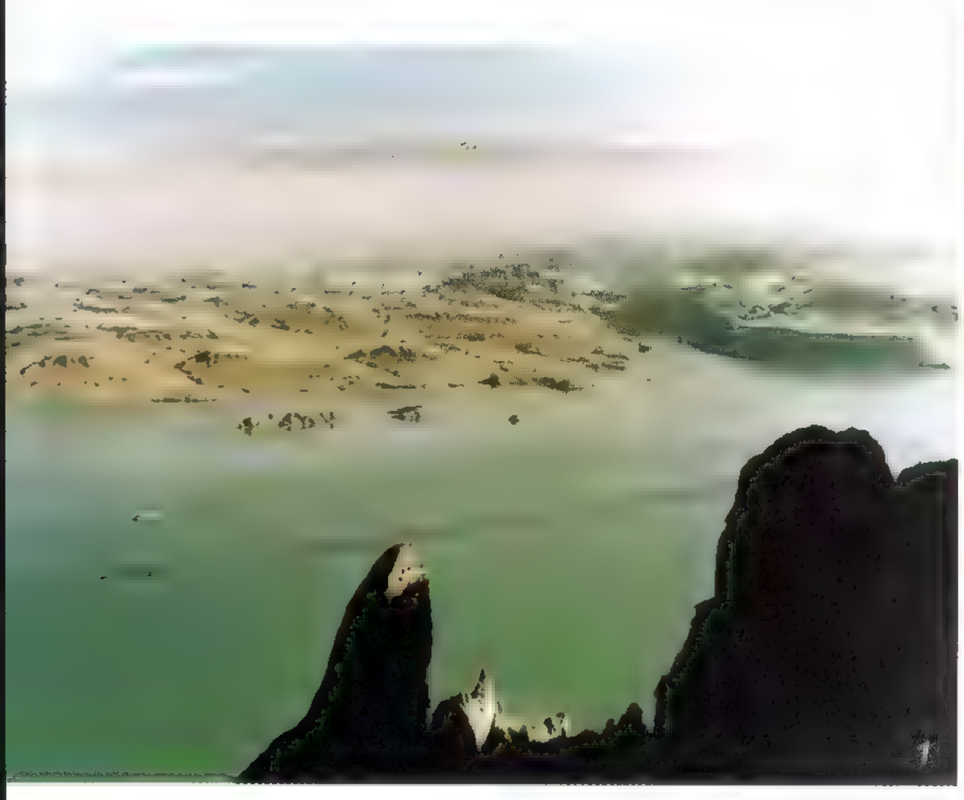
Longyang Gorge, meaning a perilous hanging valley, is located at the source of the Yellow River in Hainan Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, Qinghai Province. Here the river thunders through a narrow course only 40-50 metres in width. High peaks and steep cliffs line the valley which is a dozen kilometres in length and over 300 metres at its deepest point. This gorge is the largest and most magnificent among the 20 or more gorges on the lower reaches of the Yellow River.

In October 1986 when the Longyang Gorge Power Station closed its sluice gates, the Yellow River, which had flowed here since antiquity, was cut off and the valley beyond was entirely dried up. Thus the riverbed is laid bare, revealing a fascinating scene. One finds jagged rocks in a thousand and one grotesque shapes formed over the centuries by the erosion of the river.

Translated by K. V. Ku

Photos & Text by Guo Zhiwei





1. The scenic Longyang Gorge Reservoir
2. The Yellow River rushes down the narrow Longyang Gorge forming rapids.
3. A rare sight of the jagged rocks on the river bed "carved" out over the centuries by the torrential river
4. This deep hole was formed after millions of years of "drilling" by torrential, swhirling water.
5. A sealed cabin is still at the bottom of the river within the section known as "Devil Pass", where a team of drifting adventurers from Ma'anshan City, Anhui Province died in an accident.

Travel Notes

Four Cities of Shanxi

When visiting the Golden Light Temple and the ancient fortress at Zhangbi, Shanxi Province take the opportunity to visit one of the four major cities, or all four from north to south, each a tourist destination in its own right with other places of interest in their vicinity.

Datong: Yungang Grottoes • Huayan Monasteries • Shanhua Temple

Yungang Grottoes, Datong (by Chen Zhankui)

Located south of the Great Wall, Datong was once the capital of the Wei Dynasty (386-534). Its most famous site is the Yungang Grottoes. The Upper and Lower Huayan Monasteries, built during the period of the Liao and Kin dynasties and the Daxiong (Mahavira) Hall in the Upper Monastery is typical of this period. The Ming and Qing frescoes covering the walls contain vivid depictions of people. Bojiajiaocang Hall (Hall for the Conservation of Buddhist Scriptures of the Bhagavat Order) in the Lower Monastery contains 31 painted clay sculptures of Buddhas and Bodhisattvas from the Liao period (916-1125).

Datong's famous glazed-tile Nine Dragon Screen is eight metres high, 45 metres long and two metres thick and depicts wonderfully archaic, stylized dragons, the oldest in China. South of the city, Shanhua Temple was first built in the Tang Dynasty (618-907). Not far from Mount Hengshan is the famous Hanging Monastery, a wooden pagoda built during the Liao period.

Taiyuan: Yanmen Pass • Jinci Memorial Temple

En route to Taiyuan one finds the strategically important Yanmen Pass in the town of the same name. Constructed on the crest of the Yanmen Range during the Tang Dynasty the pass was moved to its present location by the Ming. Built on the site of Jinyang, capital of a number of early dynasties, Taiyuan was first constructed some 2,400 years ago. The symbol of the city is the Shuangta (Twin Pagodas) Temple. Each of the octagonal pagodas, built in 1608 is 13 storeys high. Of earlier date is Chongshan Temple built in the seventh century which houses a statue of Guanyin, Goddess of Mercy, with 1,000 arms and eyes and 11 faces. This strange and compelling figure is a rare piece of artwork from the Ming Dynasty.

The Jinci Memorial Temple, the city's main attraction, was built before the Northern Wei Dynasty and has over 40 points of interest, the most magnificent being the Shengmu (Holy Mother) Hall first constructed in the Northern Song Dynasty (960-1127). Mount Wutai, 220 kilometres north of Taiyuan is one of China's four major Buddhist mountains. Covering an area of 500 square kilometres the first religious buildings were constructed during the Eastern Han Dynasty (25-220) and at least 85 temples and monasteries erected since the Tang Dynasty can still be visited.

Jinci Memorial Temple, Taiyuan (by Chan Yat Nin)

Linfen / Puxian County: Yao Temple • Dongyue Monastery

Yao, a legendary tribal leader of ancient China, is said to have built his capital at Linfen 5,000 years ago hence the Yao Temple built in his honour. In the southwest of the city, one can visit Dayun Monastery which contains the treasures of a three-metre-high iron bust of Buddha and a six-storey glazed pagoda. On Mount Dongshan near Puxian 70 kilometres from Linfen is the Dongyue Monastery, a palatial complex of some 300 buildings dedicated to King Dongyue, the legendary God of Destiny who decides fate and determines who shall go to heaven or hell. Here depictions of the 18 levels of hell can be seen with over 140 vivid carvings of monsters and demons.

Travelling 126 kilometres from the city to Xixian County one comes to Xiaoxitian (Mini Western Paradise), alias Thousand-Buddha Convent, built in 1634 during the Ming Dynasty. A treasure trove of China's peculiar art of hanging models, the convent houses over 1,000 Buddha statues and more than 7,000 Ming-edition Buddhist sutras.

In the west of Jixian County 165 kilometres from Linfen is the stupendous Hukou (Teapot Spout) Falls. Here the Yellow River surges into the narrow canyon with the momentum of an avalanche. The 30-metre-wide falls send up magnificent plumes of spray. In Dingcun Village in Xiangfen County is the archaeological site of a culture dating back to the mid-Paleolithic period.

Yao Temple, Linfen (by Chapman Lee)

Yuncheng / Wanrong County: Changping Village • Guan Yu Temple • Qiufeng Tower

Yuncheng is where the Chinese culture is said to have developed earliest. The mythical tribal rulers Yu and Shun are both alleged to have had their capitals in the area. The village of Changping in Xiezhou, 24 kilometres west of Yuncheng, was the birthplace of Guan Yu, a genuine historical figure and great general of Shu during the Three Kingdoms Period (220-280). Here we find the largest Guan Yu Temple in existence, covering an area of 18,500 square metres, built in the Sui Dynasty (581-618) with large-scale renovation taking place under the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911). The temple complex is actually typical of a traditional Chinese palace.

From the top of the 30-metre Qiufeng (Autumn Breeze) Tower on the banks of the Yellow River in southwest Wanrong County one can enjoy the spectacle of the surging yellowish waters which give the great river its name.

Flights to and from Beijing

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Chengdu — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:00	09:15	SZ4101
	6	07:25	09:30	SZ4623
	3 4 6 7	07:35	09:45	3U141
	2	07:35	09:55	3U143
	1 5	07:35	09:55	3U601
	1 5	08:50	11:05	SZ4605
	3	08:55	11:05	SZ4109
	4	09:30	11:50	SZ4609
	1	09:50	12:10	G8 105
	2 5	10:00	12:20	SZ4107
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:05	14:40	CA1406
	7	12:15	14:30	SZ4111
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:10	15:30	SZ4103
	2 5	14:00	16:05	3U145
	1 3 4 6	15:10	17:30	SZ4105
	7	15:55	18:35	CJ6468
Beijing — Chengdu	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:45	11:25	CA1405
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:55	12:25	SZ4102
	2	10:35	13:05	3U144
	7	12:10	15:05	CJ6467
	1	12:40	15:30	G8 106
	2 5	13:05	15:50	SZ4108
	1 4 6	14:10	16:50	SZ4106
	7	15:15	17:55	SZ4114
	1 5	15:35	18:00	3U602
	3	15:50	18:30	SZ4106
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:10	18:50	SZ4104
	1 5	16:40	19:15	SZ4606
	2 3 4 5 6 7	16:55	19:25	3U142
	4	17:00	19:35	SZ4610
	3	17:55	20:25	SZ4110
	6	17:55	20:20	SZ4624
Hefei — Beijing	1 2 3 4 6 7	08:25	09:50	MU5105
	1 5	15:20	16:45	MF8109
	1 4	18:10	20:00	GP7156
Beijing — Hefei	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:50	12:15	MU5106
	1 4	15:50	17:40	GP7155
	1 5	17:45	19:20	MF8110
Hong Kong — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:50	11:50	CA108
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:20	13:25	CZ309
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:20	15:10	CA102
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:15	20:10	CA110
Beijing — Hong Kong	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:05	10:50	CA101
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:00	15:55	CA109
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:15	17:35	CZ310
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:05	19:50	CA107
Lanzhou — Beijing	2 6	08:45	10:55	WH2607
	3 5 7	08:45	11:05	WH2117
	4	08:45	11:05	WH2145
	3 7	08:55	11:05	WH2109
	5	09:05	11:05	WH2609
	2 6	15:10	17:30	WH2111
	1	16:25	18:25	WH2115
Beijing — Lanzhou	4	16:05	18:45	WH2146
	2 6	16:20	18:40	WH2608
	5	17:00	19:20	WH2610
	3 5 7	17:35	20:15	WH2118
	2 6	18:20	21:00	WH2112
	3 7	18:30	20:55	WH2110
	1	19:25	21:45	WH2116

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Shenzhen — Beijing	1 5	08:10	12:30	4G803
	2 4 6	08:20	12:30	4G821
	1 2 3 4 5 6	08:35	11:40	CZ3151
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:30	12:25	CA1306
	1 3 7	10:20	13:15	CJ6701
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:40	15:50	4G801
	2 6	13:20	17:40	X2 118
	7	14:10	17:25	CZ344
	2	15:05	18:20	CZ3155
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:25	18:20	CJ6310
	6	15:30	18:30	CA974
	6	15:55	21:10	CA1396
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:40	20:35	CA1304
Beijing — Shenzhen	2 6	08:25	12:45	X2 117
	4	08:35	11:50	CZ3156
	5	08:55	12:00	CA973
	6	10:05	15:20	CA1395
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	11:20	14:15	CJ6309
	1 3 4	12:20	15:20	CZ3152
	6	12:40	15:55	CZ343
	1 2 4 5 6	13:30	16:20	4G822
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:45	16:45	CA1303
	1 3 7	14:05	17:15	CJ6702
	3 6	15:50	19:20	CZ3158
	3 7	16:40	19:35	4G802
	1 5	16:40	21:25	4G830
	2 4 6	16:40	21:10	4G880
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:25	20:20	CA1305
	7	18:10	21:20	CZ3160
Xi'an — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:00	09:40	WH2101
	1 2 4 5 7	08:15	09:55	WH2123
	3 6	09:00	10:50	WH2603
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:25	16:15	WH2107
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:15	18:15	CA1202
Beijing — Xi'an	2 5 7	07:35	09:10	CA1215
	1 2 4 5 7	10:50	12:30	WH2124
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:35	15:25	CA1201
	3 7	13:55	15:45	CA1225
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:30	19:15	WH2108
	3 6	17:45	19:35	WH2604
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:25	20:10	WH2102
Zhengzhou — Beijing	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:45	09:05	CZ3115
	1 3 4 5 6 7	08:20	09:40	Z2 311
	2	08:20	09:40	Z2 313
	2 6	13:10	14:30	CZ3171
	1 5	16:50	18:10	CZ3175
Beijing — Zhengzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:45	11:05	CZ3116
	1 3 4 5 6 7	10:20	11:40	Z2 312
	2	14:50	15:50	Z2 314
	1 5	18:50	20:10	CZ3176
	2 6	19:25	20:45	CZ3172

(Valid to March 30, 1996)

Flights to and from Hangzhou

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Beijing — Hangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	08:20	10:15	CA1509
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:40	12:30	MU5146
	1 5	11:00	12:50	SF152
	2 6	16:30	18:10	MU5934
	2 4 6	16:50	18:45	CA1535
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	19:00	20:35	MU5940
	1 3	19:50	21:30	MU5938
Hangzhou — Beijing	2 6	08:20	10:00	MU5933
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	10:55	12:50	CA1510
	1 3	13:10	15:10	MU5937
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:20	15:05	MU5145
	1 5	13:30	15:25	SF151
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:25	18:00	MU5939
	2 4 6	19:25	21:25	CA1536
Chengdu — Hangzhou	2 6	15:15	17:30	SZ4503
Hangzhou — Chengdu	2 6	18:10	20:40	SZ4504
Guangzhou — Hangzhou	2 5 7	08:30	10:30	CZ3521
	4	09:40	11:25	3Q4585
	1	10:45	12:35	CJ6773
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:40	14:30	MU5932
	2 5	13:35	15:35	CJ6328
	2 4 6	14:35	16:15	SF352
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:35	19:25	CZ3501
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	18:25	20:10	MU5360
Hangzhou — Guangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:55	11:45	MU5931
	2 5	10:25	12:55	CJ6327
	2 5 7	11:10	13:10	CZ3522
	4	12:15	13:50	3Q4586
	1	13:15	15:10	CJ6774
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:25	17:20	MU5359
	2 4 6	16:55	18:55	SF351
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	20:15	22:05	CZ3502
Hefei — Hangzhou	2 5	08:40	09:50	MU5575
	3 6	08:40	09:50	MU5995
Hangzhou — Hefei	2 5	15:35	16:40	MU5576
	3 6	20:00	21:10	MU5996
Hong Kong — Hangzhou	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	12:30	14:25	MU504
Hangzhou — Hong Kong	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	09:30	11:30	MU503
Lanzhou — Hangzhou	4	08:50	11:40	WH2853
Hangzhou — Lanzhou	4	17:05	20:20	WH2854
Shenzhen — Hangzhou	1 3 6	09:20	11:00	4G815
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	14:50	16:45	CZ3555
Hangzhou — Shenzhen	1 3 6	11:40	13:40	4G816
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	17:35	19:40	CZ3556
Hangzhou — Taiyuan	5	20:00	22:10	GP7508
Taiyuan — Hangzhou	5	08:00	10:20	GP7507

(Valid to March 30, 1996)

Flights to and from Chengdu

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Hefei — Chengdu	2 4 7	18:45	21:00	SZ4522
Chengdu — Hefei	2 4 7	16:00	17:55	SZ4521
Lanzhou — Chengdu	4	08:35	10:05	WH2435
	1	08:50	10:10	WH2417
	2 6 7	08:50	10:20	WH2431
Chengdu — Lanzhou	2 6 7	10:50	12:40	WH2432
	4	10:55	12:35	WH2436
	1	15:45	17:15	WH2418
Shenzhen — Chengdu	2 5	08:35	10:40	4G823
	7	08:40	10:55	CZ3453
	1	11:40	13:50	CZ3453
	6	11:50	14:00	G8 343
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	15:45	17:55	3U302
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	16:30	18:45	SZ4314
Chengdu — Shenzhen	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	07:55	09:45	3U301
	2 5	11:30	13:45	4G824
	7	11:35	13:35	CZ3454
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	13:40	15:50	CZ4313
	6	14:30	16:20	G8 344
	1	14:35	16:55	CZ3454
Zhengzhou — Chengdu	1 5	11:50	13:35	CZ3471
	1 4	17:05	19:05	SZ4710
	3	18:20	20:10	SZ4614
Chengdu — Zhengzhou	3	07:40	09:05	SZ4613
	1 4	08:40	10:20	SZ4709
	1 5	14:20	16:10	CZ3472

(Valid to March 30, 1996)

Flights to and from Taiyuan

Route	Days of Week	Dep.	Arr.	Flight No.
Chengdu — Taiyuan	2 3 6 7	20:00	22:00	GP7402
	5	20:20	22:40	GP7404
Taiyuan — Chengdu	2 3 6 7	17:00	19:20	GP7401
	5	17:40	19:50	GP7403
Shanghai — Taiyuan	1	09:45	12:00	GP7522
	4 7	09:45	12:00	GP7569
	1 5	12:00	14:10	WH2572
	2 6	13:00	15:25	GP7514
	3	20:10	22:30	GP7502
Taiyuan — Shanghai	2 6	07:05	09:10	GP7513
	1	07:05	09:10	GP7521
	4 7	13:15	15:35	GP7570
	1 5	15:00	16:55	WH2571
	3	17:20	19:35	GP7501
Shenzhen — Taiyuan	1	16:25	19:35	GP7306
	4	17:30	20:40	GP7308
Taiyuan — Shenzhen	1	08:10	11:25	GP7305
	4	08:10	11:25	GP7307

(Valid to March 30, 1996)

Average Climatic Conditions in Anhui, Beijing, Gansu, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan and Zhejiang

			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Anhui	Hefei	Temperature (℃)	2.1	4.2	9.2	15.5	20.6	25.0	28.3	28.1	22.9	17.0	10.6	4.6
		Rainfall (mm)	31.8	49.8	75.6	102.0	101.8	117.8	174.1	119.9	86.5	51.6	48.0	29.7
Beijing		Temperature (℃)	-4.6	-2.2	4.5	13.1	19.8	24.0	25.8	24.4	19.4	12.4	4.1	-2.7
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	7.4	8.6	19.4	33.1	77.8	192.5	212.3	57.0	24.0	6.6	2.6
Gansu	Lanzhou	Temperature (℃)	-6.9	-2.3	5.2	11.8	16.6	20.3	22.2	21.0	15.8	9.4	1.7	-5.5
		Rainfall (mm)	1.4	2.4	8.3	17.4	36.2	32.5	63.8	85.3	49.1	24.7	5.4	1.3
Shaanxi	Xi'an	Temperature (℃)	-1.0	2.1	8.1	14.1	19.1	25.2	26.6	25.5	19.4	13.7	6.6	0.7
		Rainfall (mm)	7.6	10.6	24.6	52.0	63.2	52.2	99.4	71.7	98.3	62.4	31.5	6.7
Shanxi	Datong	Temperature (℃)	-11.3	-7.7	-0.1	8.3	15.4	19.9	21.8	20.1	14.3	7.5	-1.4	-8.9
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	3.9	9.9	19.3	29.1	45.1	95.1	94.1	51.2	23.7	8.1	1.5
	Taiyuan	Temperature (℃)	-6.6	-3.1	3.7	11.4	17.7	21.7	23.5	21.8	16.1	9.9	2.1	-4.9
		Rainfall (mm)	3.0	6.0	16.3	23.8	30.1	52.6	118.3	103.6	64.3	30.8	13.2	3.4
Sichuan	Chengdu	Temperature (℃)	5.5	7.5	12.1	17.0	20.9	23.7	25.6	25.1	21.2	16.8	11.9	7.3
		Rainfall (mm)	5.9	10.9	21.4	50.7	88.6	111.3	235.5	234.1	118.0	46.4	18.4	5.8
Zhejiang	Hangzhou	Temperature (℃)	3.8	5.1	9.3	15.4	20.2	24.3	28.6	28.0	23.3	17.7	12.1	6.3
		Rainfall (mm)	62.2	88.7	114.1	130.4	179.9	196.2	126.5	136.5	177.6	77.9	54.7	54.0

Train Schedules
Beijing — Chengdu

7 Exp.	Train No. / Station	8 Exp.
23:15	Beijing	17:28
02:42	Shijiazhuang	14:12
07:41	Zhengzhou	09:08
09:41	Luoyang	07:06
12:09	Sanmenxia West	04:42
15:43	Xi'an	01:06
18:23	Baoji	22:30
–	Qingling	21:16
20:30	Fengzhou	20:24
22:51	Lüeyang	–
01:53	Guangyuan	14:58
05:28	Jinyang	11:08
07:13	Chengdu	09:15

Exp. — Express train

Train Schedules
Taiyuan – Xi'an – Chengdu

235 F.T.	185 F.T.	Train No. / Station	186 F.T.	236 F.T.
16:41	13:09	Taiyuan	05:05	11:10
19:14	15:28	Jiexiu	02:54	08:45
21:45	17:52	Linfen	00:25	06:06
00:28	20:36	Yuncheng	21:57	03:38
02:15	22:16	Fenglingdu	20:14	01:47
03:20	23:06	Mengyuan	19:41	01:00
04:35	00:06	Weinan	18:19	23:31
05:50	01:09	Xi'an	17:15	22:30
06:38	01:39	Xianyang	16:39	21:32
09:18	04:25	Baoji	14:19	18:35
	06:49	Fengzhou	12:03	
	12:47	Guangyuan	05:25	
	18:30	Deyang	23:55	
	19:36	Chengdu	22:50	

F.T. — Fast through passenger train

Train Schedules
Beijing — Zhengzhou — Changsha — Guangzhou — Xi'an

79 Exp.	47 Exp.	41 Exp.	29 Exp.	15 Exp.	Train No. / Station	16 Exp.	30 Exp.	42 Exp.	48 Exp.	80 Exp.
22:37	19:26	13:30	22:25	00:29	Beijing	04:30	06:00	11:28	08:49	06:45
00:40	21:22	15:26	–	–	Baoding	–	–	09:32	06:55	04:31
02:31	23:06	17:10	01:57	03:57	Shijiazhuang	01:14	02:44	07:55	05:18	02:54
04:49	–	19:07	–	–	Handan	–	–	05:44	–	00:18
05:52	02:05	22:27	–	–	Anyang	–	–	–	02:18	23:20
08:28	04:36	–	06:56	08:56	Zhengzhou	21:10	21:40	02:37	23:48	20:34
	08:33	–	10:53	12:53	Xinyang	16:10	17:40	–	19:48	
	12:19	–	14:21	16:21	Wuchang	12:29	13:59	–	15:51	
	17:39	–	19:27	21:41	Changsha	07:15	08:59	–	10:37	
	20:46	–	22:21	00:35	Hengyang	04:19	06:03	–	07:22	
	01:51	–	03:20	05:36	Shaoguan	23:21	01:07	–	02:28	
	04:57	–	06:29	08:45	Guangzhou	20:00	21:46	–	23:06	
		00:27			Luoyang			00:35		
		02:55			Sanmenxia West			22:11		
		06:17			Xi'an			18:35		

Train Schedules
Shanghai — Hangzhou — Changsha — Guangzhou

371 O.	223/222 F.T.	209 F.T.	207/206 F.T.	Train No. / Station	208/205 F.T.	210 F.T.	221/224 F.T.	372 O.
	15:35		17:50	**Shanghai**	13:51		13:05	
16:25	–	09:20	–	**Hangzhou**	–	20:14	–	10:54
–	20:14	–	21:30	**Hangzhou East**	10:28	–	09:23	–
18:08	21:48	11:03	22:47	**Zhuji**	08:12	18:05	06:59	08:49
19:22	23:34	12:07	00:01	**Yiwu**	06:54	17:00	05:54	07:44
21:00	01:17	13:25	02:02	**Jinhua**	05:46	15:53	04:46	06:38
22:52	03:44	14:58	04:05	**Quzhou**	04:10	13:44	02:59	05:03
02:07	07:18	18:20	06:55	**Shangrao**	01:34	11:10	00:24	02:02
04:40	10:00	20:50	09:09	**Yingtan**	23:14	08:25	21:55	22:53
05:23	10:44	21:39	09:52	**Dongxiang**	22:18	06:53	20:43	21:56
06:05	11:24	22:21	10:31	**Jinxian**	21:36	–	19:58	21:16
07:24	13:19	–	–	**Nanchang**	–	–	18:23	19:55
	–	23:11	11:17	**Xiangtang West**	20:52	05:27	–	
	–	03:22	15:18	**Yichun**	16:10	01:18	–	
	–	07:14	19:08	**Zhuzhou**	12:53	22:16	–	
	–	–	20:06	**Changsha**	11:40	–	–	
	16:02	–		**Jiujiang South**		–	15:26	
	19:24	–		**Tieshan**		–	11:57	
	21:40	–		**Wuchang**		–	09:40	
		09:32		**Hengyang**		19:55		
		12:08		**Chenzhou**		17:17		
		15:10		**Shaoguan**		14:20		
		18:55		**Guangzhou**		10:20		

O. — Ordinary passenger train

Train Schedules
Shanghai — Chengdu

190/191 F.T.	Train No. / Station	189/192 F.T.
13:50	**Shanghai**	10:46
15:00	**Suzhou**	09:34
18:49	**Nanjing**	05:37
21:54	**Bengbu**	02:51
00:32	**Xuzhou**	23:59
02:47	**Shangqiu**	21:31
04:37	**Kaifeng**	19:33
05:56	**Zhengzhou**	18:29
08:38	**Luoyang**	15:57
10:41	**Sanmenxia**	13:43
13:18	**Mengyuan**	11:15
15:22	**Xi'an**	09:17
15:52	**Xianyang**	08:41
18:38	**Baoji**	06:37
07:05	**Mianyang**	17:30
07:58	**Deyang**	16:34
09:04	**Chengdu**	15:23

Train Schedules
Shanghai — Chengdu

182/183 F.T.	Train No. / Station	181/184 F.T.
20:41	**Shanghai**	07:42
21:54	**Suzhou**	06:32
01:33	**Nanjing**	02:45
04:10	**Bengbu**	23:54
06:31	**Xuzhou**	21:21
08:54	**Shangqiu**	18:51
10:44	**Kaifeng**	16:53
12:02	**Zhengzhou**	15:51
14:15	**Luoyang**	13:39
16:50	**Baofeng**	11:03
21:17	**Xiangfan**	06:41
00:39	**Shiyan**	02:44
04:15	**Ankang**	22:57
09:10	**Hanzhong**	18:32
21:22	**Deyang**	09:23
22:22	**Chengdu**	08:03

Business Tips

MARKETING

Sino-French Store in Beijing

Carrefour, the leading French retailing group, opened its first outlet in Beijing. The first foreign funded store in the city, Carrefour will be co-managed by China and France and sell approximately 6,000 inexpensive items mainly produced in China. Carrefour plans to open a further 30 outlets in China during the next 10 years.

Fuzhou's Global Mobile

In co-operation with Nokia of Finland the first phase of construction of the Global Network System for Mobile Communications was recently completed in Fuzhou, Fujian Province. The system provides electronic mail, information, facsimile and other services, with 75,000 lines to nine perfectures and cities and 12 counties.

Shenyang Establishes Complaints Centre

To meet the needs of the existing 5,000 or so Sino joint ventures and foreign firms in Liaoning Province, a special centre has been established in Shenyang to handle complaints and contractual disputes of foreign firms located in the province. The provincial government hopes to improve the investment environment for the increasing number of foreign businesses.

Huge Commercial Centre

At a cost of US$120 million, the largest department store in Asia, Shanghai Yaohan, opened at the end of last year. A Sino-Japanese joint venture, it is the project of the Japanese conglomerate Yaohan International Group and a number of commercial businesses in Shanghai. Located in the Pudong New Area, the Shanghai Yaohan will be the first Sino-foreign venture to sell general merchandise with the approval of the Chinese Government.

Yaohan has also recently opened a commodity wholesale centre in China and has 40,000 members so far.

Luxury Outlets

Alfred Dunhill, a branded range of British luxury goods, opened two retail outlets recently in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province. Located in the Friendship Store and the China Hotel, the two new shops bring Dunhill's number of retail outlets in China to nine. Others are located in Beijing, Shanghai, Dalian, Shenzhen and Shenyang.

TRANSPORTATION

Taiyuan New Railway Ready

Track-laying has been completed on a new railway line between Shuozhou in North China's Shanxi Province and Shenmu County in neighbouring Shaanxi Province. The new railway links up with the Baotou-Shenmu railway, which recently became operational in the west, and will link up with the planned Suozhou-Huanghuagang railway in the east, becoming an important coal transport line parallel to the Datong-Qinhuangdao line. The line involves a total investment of US$313 million and will have an annual handling capacity of 25 million tons.

Tianjin-Tanggu Highway Open

A bridge linking the harbour of Tianjin with the No. 2 Tianjin-Tanggu highway began operations earlier this year. The 1,205-metre bridge is the longest in Tianjin and has been designed to handle 800 trucks per hour and will help the port city realize its goal of handling 70 million tons of cargo annually by the year 2000.

Hainan Island Gets Road

Construction has started on an 80-kilometre highway to connect Haikou in the north, with Sanya in the south. The new road will run along the western side of the island, and after completion in 1997 it will link up with the existing eastern Haikou-Sanya road to provide Hainan Island with a circular expressway.

New Freight Railway Links Fuyang-Jiujiang

A freight train leaving Yingnan Station in Anhui Province for Jiujiang Station in Jiangxi announced the operation of the Fuyang-Jiujiang section of the Beijing-Kowloon Railway at the beginning of the year. The 462-kilometre section from Fuyang City in Anhui to Jiujiang links up 18 counties in Anhui, Henan, Hubei and Jiangxi provinces, many of which are under-developed economically.

New Highway in Pudong

Puchuan Road, a 7.9-kilometre key road, opened to traffic recently in Pudong New Area, Shanghai. With an investment of US$82 million the 50-metre-wide, eight-lane highway will serve a number of developing companies and counties and help to improve the area for future investments.

EVENTS

Modern Railways '96

The Ministry of Railways and the China World Trade Centre will hold a joint railway exhibition in Beijing from March 29 to April 2 this year. Modern Railways '96 will focus on equipment and technology for railway locomotives, as well as track maint-enance, industrial products, electrical parts, construction and design.

Photo '96 in Shanghai

China Photo '96, a large-sized international photographic equipment exhibition, will be held at the Shanghai International Exhibition Centre from April 11 to 15 this year. Exhibitors from 200 manufacturers in 17 countries will display their products ranging from film, photo paper, cameras, camera lens, photo processing, printing equipment and other associated products at the show. At present, only 14 out of 100 Chinese families have cameras showing the huge market potential.

Executive Jottings

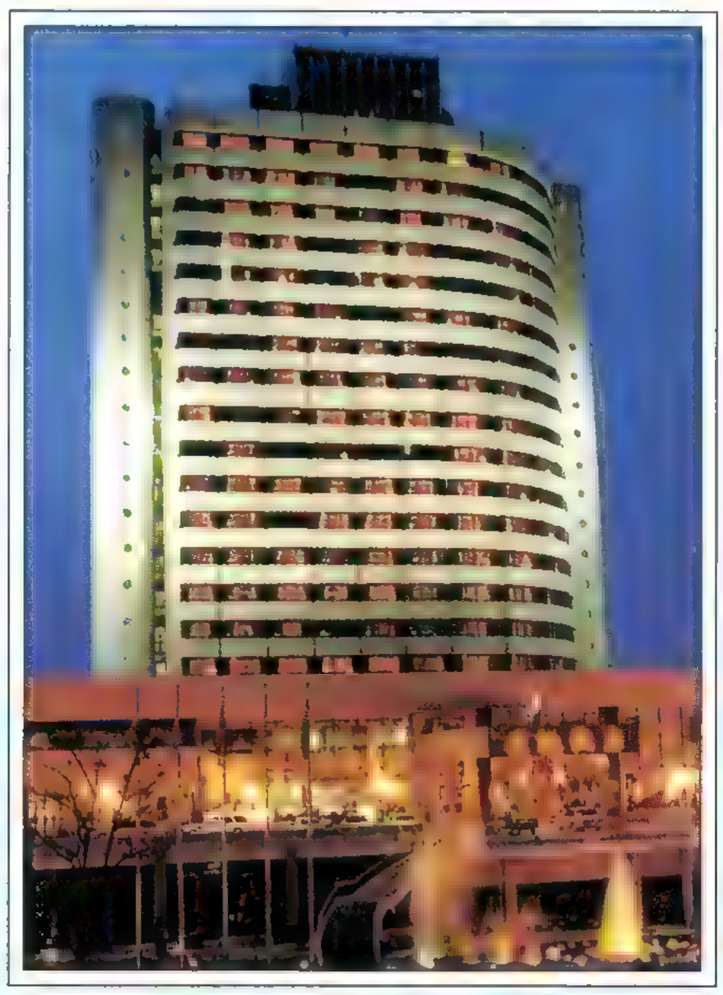
Major Hotels in Anhui, Sichuan and Zhejiang

Hefei, Anhui

Anhui Friendship Hotel
安徽友誼賓館

6 Meishan Road, Hefei, Anhui 230022
Tel: 336948, 331707
90 rooms and suites
Located 9 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, bar, coffee shop, ballroom, beauty salon

Anhui Hotel
安徽飯店



2 Meishan Road, Heifei, Anhui 230022
Tel: 331100, 332998 Telex: 90029 ANHTL CN
Fax: (0551) 332581
320 rooms
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, business centre, conference hall, karaoke, billiard room, gym, beauty salon, bar

Overseas Chinese Hotel
華僑飯店

68 Changjiang Road, Heifei, Anhui 230001
Tel: (0551) 252221 Telex: 90231 AOCH CN
Fax: (0551) 242861
GM: Sun Yong Ying
Opened April 1954
256 rooms and 42 suites
Located 11 km from airport, 1.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, shopping arcade, coffee shop, bar

Huangshan, Anhui

Dianli Guesthouse

1 Qianyuan Road South, Tunxi District, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 0559-214811 Fax: 0559-213546
GM: Zhang Zhenbo
Opened May 1990
112 rooms and 8 suites
Located 5 km from airport, 0.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, ballroom, karaoke, beauty salon, clinic

Huashan Guesthouse

3 Yan'an Road, Tunxi District, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 0559-213311 Telex: 5478
Fax: 0559-212378
GM: Zhu Genyi
Opened 1962
132 rooms and 10 suites
Located 5 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, multi-function hall, beauty salon

Huangshan Suodao (Cableway) Hotel
黃山索道賓館

12 Xianrendong Road, Tunxi District, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 0559-218147 Fax: 0559-212524
GM: Wang Xucheng
72 rooms
Located 5 km from airport, 0.3 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurants, karaoke, massage

Jiangnan Hotel

25 Qianyuan Road North, Tunxi District, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 211067
GM: Zhu Yunhai
Opened 8 October 1992
107 rooms and 6 suites
Located 4 km from airport
Facilities: Chinese restaurant, business centre, coffee shop, ballroom, shopping arcade, sauna, massage

Jiangxinzhou Hotel
江心洲賓館

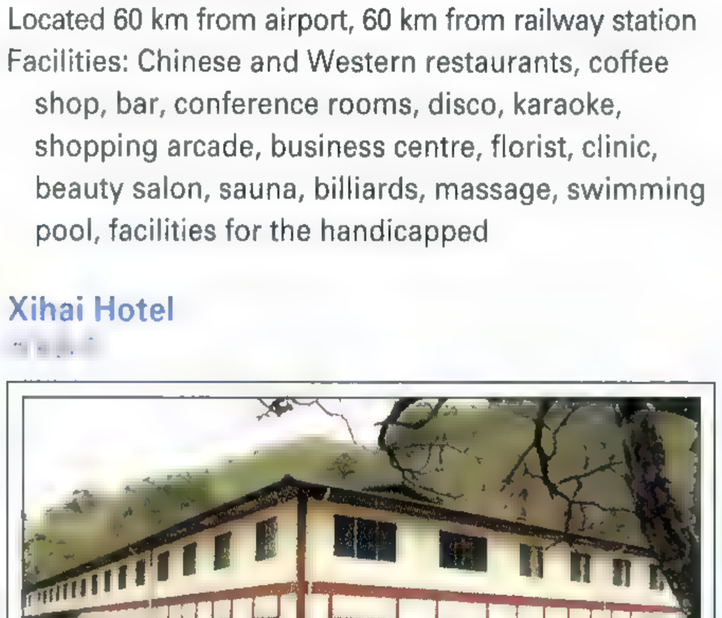
4 Jiangxinzhou, Tunxi District, Huangshan, Anhui
Tel: 212612 Telex: 90918 AHST CN
GM: Xu Yuansan
Opened September 1987
132 rooms and 3 suites
Located 5 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, ballroom, coffee shop, shopping arcade

Huangshan Scenic Area, Anhui

Beihai Hotel

Huangshan Scenic Area, Huangshan, Anhui 242709
Tel: 562555 Fax: 0559-562708
GM: Zheng Zongyin
Opened 1958
180 rooms and 10 suites
Located 79 km from airport and railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, bar, beauty salon, massage, clinic

Taoyuan Hotel



Huangshan Hot Spring Scenic Area, Anhui 242709
Tel: (0559) 5562666 5562295
Fax: (0559) 5562888
GM: Wang Ruwei
Opened May 1980
200 rooms and suites
Located 60 km from airport, 60 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, massage, swimming pool, facilities for the handicapped

Xihai Hotel

Huangshan Scenic Area, Huangshan, Anhui 242709
Tel: 562132, 562137 Telex: 90911 HSXHH CN
Fax: 0559-562988
GM: Lam Manle
Opened 1989
122 rooms and 5 suites
Located 1,600 metres above sea level, 90 km from airport and railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, bar, shopping arcade, ballroom, beauty salon, clinic

Xin'anjiang Hotel
新安江賓館

65 Binjiang Road Central, Tunxi, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: (0559) 2513661
Fax: (0559) 2514154
GM: Jin Hui
Opened October 1958
120 rooms and suites
Located 5 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, massage, baby sitting

Yungu Hotel
雲谷山莊賓館

Yungu Temple, Huangshan Scenic Area, Huangshan, Anhui 242709
Tel: 0559-562422 Fax: 0559-215409
GM: Zhong Yongbin
Opened 29 May 1987
98 rooms and 2 suites
Located near the cableway in the Huangshan Scenic Area, 79 km from airport and railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, coffee shop, bar, ballroom, gym, massage, beauty salon, shopping arcade

Shexian, Huangshan, Anhui

Xin'an Guesthouse

12 Hongqi Road, Shexian County, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 0559-612319
GM: Du Daliao
Opened 1985
42 rooms and 6 suites
Located 18 km from airport, 14 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurant, ballroom, coffee shop

Yuping Villa
玉屏山莊

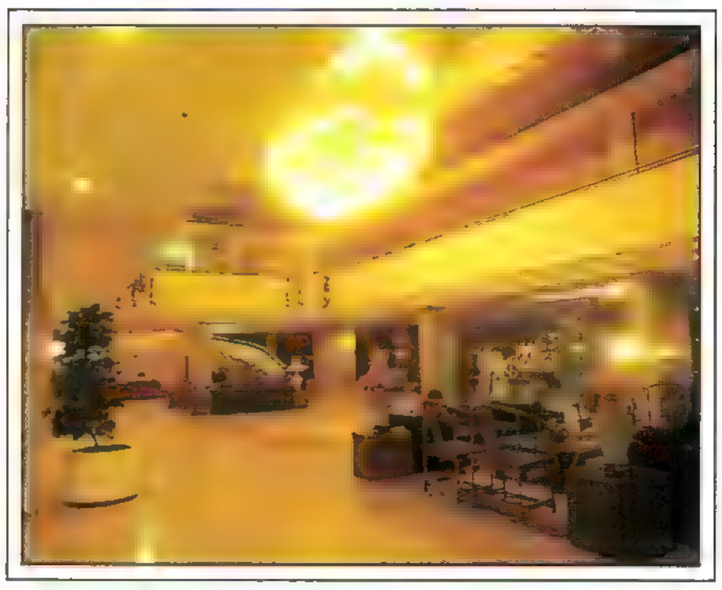
164 Remin Road, Huicheng, Shexian County, Huangshan, Anhui 245000
Tel: 0559-612475
GM: Fang Yougen
Opened May 1989
30 rooms
Located 30 km from airport, 0.5 km from railway station
Facilities: Restaurant, conference room, coffee shop

Chengdu, Sichuan

Chengdu Grand Hotel

29 Section 2, Renmin Road North, Chengdu, Sichuan 610081
Tel: 3333888 Telex: 600349 CHDGH CN
Fax: 336818
GM: Wang Zize
Opened 8 October 1990
456 rooms and 12 suites
Located 20 km from airport, 200 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference rooms, business centre, karaoke, dance hall, beauty salon, gym, shopping arcade, massage, bar

Chengdu Hotel



East Section of Shudu Road, Chengdu, Sichuan 610066
Tel: 4444112, 4448888
Telex: 60164 CDHOT CN, 600077 CHMKT CN
Fax: 441603
Opened 18 May 1984
310 rooms
Located 15 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference hall, business centre, bar, swimming pool, tennis court, billiard room, gym, sauna, massage, clinic, karaoke, disco, coffee shop, function rooms

Jinhe Grand Hotel

18 Jinhe Street, Chengdu, Sichuan 610031
Tel: 6642888 Telex: 600341 JHHTL CN
Fax: (028) 632037
GM: Long Guanyin
Opened 15 April 1991
400 rooms and 8 suites
Located 18 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Revolving restaurant, banquet hall, conference rooms, bar, karaoke, disco, dance hall, business centre, billiard room

Jinjiang Hotel
錦江賓館

80 Section 2, Renmin Road South, Chengdu, Sichuan 610014
Tel: 5582222 Telex: 60109 JJH CN
Fax: 5582348
GM: Luo Lixian
Opened May 1960
523 rooms and suites
Located 17 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference halls, banquet hall, bar, shopping arcade, nightclub, KTV, billiards, sauna, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, gym, bowling

Minshan Hotel
岷山飯店

55 Section 2, Renmin Road South, Chengdu, Sichuan 610021
Tel: 5583333 Telex: 60247 MSH CN
Fax: 5582154
GM: Li Li
Opened 18 January 1988
422 rooms and suites
Located 7 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese, Western and Japanese restaurants, banquet hall, conference hall, business centre, shopping arcade, nightclub, karaoke, swimming pool, beauty salon, sauna

Tibet Hotel Chengdu
成都西藏飯店

10 Renmin Road North, Chengdu, Sichuan 610081
Tel: (028) 3333988 Telex: 60309 THC CN
Fax: (028) 3333526
GM: He Shengqiu
Opened 18 February 1988
359 rooms and suites
Located 22 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, business centre, shopping arcade, karaoke, beauty salon, massage, recreation centre

Zhufeng Hotel Chengdu

107 Shangxi Shuncheng Street, Chengdu, Sichuan 610015
Tel: 6662441 Telex: 600023 ZHGHO CN
Fax: 671717
Opened 15 March 1988
270 rooms
Located in the city centre, 20 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese restaurants, banquet hall, business centre, bar, karaoke, disco, billiard room, shopping arcade, beauty salon

Chongqing, Sichuan

Chung King Hotel

41 Xinhua Road, Chongqing, Sichuan 630011
Tel: (0811) 349301 Fax: (0811) 343085
GM: Ronnie Chui Jing Wah
200 rooms and suites
Located in the city centre, 33 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, conference hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage

Chongqing Guesthouse

235 Minsheng Road, Chongqing, Sichuan 630010
Tel: (0811) 345888 Telex: 62122 CQGH CN
Fax: (0811) 330643
GM: Yang Huai
Opened 18 July 1985
265 rooms
Located in downtown Chongqing, 30 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Korean restaurants, business centre, conference rooms, health club, swimming pool, sauna, massage, nightclub, karaoke, dance room, bar, billiard room, mini-golf, beauty salon, shopping arcade

Holiday Inn Yangtze Chongqing

15 Nanping Beilu, Chongqing, Sichuan 630060
Tel: 203380 Telex: 62220 HIYCQ CN
Fax: 200884
GM: Peter Pollmeier
Opened 24 February 1989
379 rooms and suites
Located 5 km from city centre, 30 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese restaurant, business centre, disco, karaoke, bar, ballroom (300 persons), outdoor swimming pool, health club, sauna, massage, billiard room, shopping arcade, beauty salon, gym

Renmin Hotel

173 Renmin Road, Chongqing, Sichuan 630015
Tel: (0811) 351421 Fax: (0811) 352076
GM: Luo Guangqing
213 rooms and suites
Located 28 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, conference hall, dance hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, massage, baby sitting service, steam bath, solarium, facilities for handicapped persons

Shaping Grand Hotel

84 Xiaolongkan New Street, Shapingba District, Chongqing, Sichuan 630030
Tel: (0811) 963195 Fax: (0811) 963293
GM: Deng Fajing
216 rooms and suites
Located 30 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, bar, karaoke, conference hall, exhibition hall, dance hall, disco, florist, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, baby sitting service, facilities for handicapped persons

Hangzhou, Zhejiang

Dragon Hotel

Shuguang Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: (0571) 7998833 Fax: (0571) 7998090
Telex: 351048 DRAGN CN
GM: Albert Poon
Opened 15 July 1987
536 rooms and suites
Located 14 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, swimming pool, tennis court, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Friendship Hotel

53 Pinghai Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: (0571) 777888 Telex: 35068 FRISH CN
Fax: (0571) 773842
Opened 6 October 1986
224 rooms and suites
Located in the city centre, 14 km from airport, 3 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, gym, massage

Hua Gang Hotel

4 Xishan Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 31007
Tel: (0571) 7998899
Fax: (0571) 7962481
GM: Zhang Xinrong
Opened October 1978
215 rooms and suites
Located 15 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, gym, massage

Huajiashan Hotel

12 Faxiang Lane, Xishan Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310007
Tel: 771224 Telex: 35063 HJSGN CN
Fax: 773980
Opened 18 October 1981
196 rooms and suites
Located 15 km from airport, 7 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, shopping arcade, beauty salon, massage, conference room, health club, karaoke, multi-function hall

Hangzhou Tower

1 Wulin Square, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 553911 Telex: 351008 HZB CN
Fax: 570062
139 rooms and suites
Located in the city centre, 12 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, shopping arcade, exhibition centre, business centre, billiard room, karaoke, gym, dance hall, clinic, beauty salon, massage

Hangzhou Zhijiang Hotel

84 Moganshan Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310005
Tel: 866888, 882924 Fax: 864966
Opened 28 November 1990
600 rooms and 20 suites
Located 20 km from airport, 12 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants,

conference rooms, banquet halls, business centre, dance hall, billiard room, function rooms, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, bar, gym, clinic, beauty salon

International Mansion
國際大廈

157 Tiyuchang Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 556224, 555724 Telex: 35029 BZIB CN
Fax: 574201
296 rooms and suites
Located 12 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, exhibition hall, bar, coffee shop, ballroom, karaoke, shopping arcade, gym, clinic, beauty salon, facilities for the handicapped

Linping Hotel
臨平賓館

Linping, Hangzhou, China 311100
Tel: (0571) 6223511
Fax: (0571) 5158613
GM: Liu Hongfang
Opened 1987
130 rooms and suites
Located 14 km from airport, 500 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, gym, massage, bowling, baby sitting, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

Overseas Chinese Hotel
華僑飯店

15 Hubin Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: (0571) 774401, 774953 Telex: 35070 HOCH CN
Fax: (0571) 774978
308 rooms and suites
Located in the city centre, 13 km from airport, 4 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, shopping arcade, ballroom, karaoke, clinic, gym, massage, beauty salon, babysitting service, facilities for the handicapped

Wang Hu Hotel
望湖賓館

2 Huancheng Road West, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310006
Tel: 771024, 771942 Telex: 351029 WHBG CN
Fax: (0571) 773027
Opened 17 March 1986
369 rooms and suites
Located 15 km from airport, 5 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet halls, conference room, business centre, shopping arcade, gym, karaoke, billiard room, dance hall

Xin Qiao Hotel
新僑飯店

176 Jiefang Road, Hangzhou, Zhejiang 310001
Tel: 776688 Telex: 351028 XQH CN
Fax: 722768
Opened 28 March 1986
342 rooms and 14 suites
Located 12 km from airport, 2 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference room, business centre, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, beauty salon, multi-function hall, billiard room, ballroom, coffee shop, bar, massage, babysitting service, facilities for the handicapped

Lanxi, Zhejiang

Mansion Lan Jiang
蘭江賓館

29 Renmin Road North, Lanxi, Zhejiang 321100
Tel: (0579) 8825800 Fax: (0579) 8825896
Telex: 375027 ZLJMS CN
GM: Hu Xiang
Opened 28 June 1990
142 rooms and suites
Located 40 km from airport, 100 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, exhibition hall, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, florist, clinic, beauty salon, billiards, massage, bowling, baby sitting, facilities for the handicapped

Ningbo, Zhejiang

Asia Garden Hotel
亞洲賓館

Mayuan Road, Ningbo, Zhejiang 315010
Tel: 7366888 Telex: 37020 AGHZJ CN
Fax: 7361238, 7366554
Opened 18 July 1987
190 rooms and suites
Located 15 km from airport, 1 km from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet room, conference rooms, business centre, disco, coffee shop, health club, shopping arcade, multi-function hall, karaoke, beauty salon, bar

Golden Dragon Hotel
金龍飯店

Nanzhan (Southern Railway Station) Square, Ningbo, Zhejiang 315010
Tel: (0574) 318888
Fax: (0574) 312288
Opened 24 October 1991
304 rooms and suites
Located 12 km from airport, 100 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, revolving restaurant, meeting rooms, bar, multi-function hall, ballroom, business centre, shopping arcade, beauty salon, coffee shop, karaoke, swimming pool

Ningbo Hotel
寧波賓館

65 Mayuan Road, Ningbo, Zhejiang 315010
Tel: (0574) 7366334 Telex: 37019 NBHOT CN
Fax: (0574) 366301
Opened 26 May 1983
116 rooms and suites
Located 12 km from airport, 550 m from railway station
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, banquet hall, conference room, business centre, multi-function hall, bar, beauty salon, ballroom, karaoke, massage, disco, shopping arcade

Overseas Chinese Hotel
華僑飯店

130 Liuting Street, Ningbo, Zhejiang 315010
Tel: (0574) 7363175 Telex: 37001 NPHCM CN
Fax: (0574) 364790
130 rooms
Located in the city centre
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, conference rooms, meeting rooms, business centre, disco, bar, billiards, shopping arcade, beauty salon

Putuoshan, Zhejiang

Xilai Xiaozhuang Hotel
息來小莊

Right side of Puji Temple, Putuoshan, Zhoushan, Zhejiang 316107
Tel: (0580) 6091505
Fax: (0580) 6091023
GM: Shui Guoyi
Opened October 1984
160 rooms and suites
Located 12 km from airport
Facilities: Chinese and Western restaurants, coffee shop, bar, conference rooms, disco, karaoke, shopping arcade, business centre, clinic, beauty salon, sauna, billiards, gym, massage, steam bath, facilities for the handicapped

News

TOURIST INFORMATION

Dolphin Aquarium in Guangzhou

The first of its kind in China, a co-operatively run Sino-Taiwanese dolphin aquarium opened recently in the Guangzhou Cultural Park in Guangdong Province. As well as exhibitions on marine life, the aquarium has four open-air pools with a seating capacity of 1,500 people and covers an area of over 2,000 square metres.

Teahouse Re-Opens in Tianqiao

The Tianqiao Happy Teahouse, located in Beijing's Tianqiao area, has re-opened to the public. The Beijing-style teahouse offers dinner shows to tourists including 13 kinds of folk art performances – Beijing-style hawkers, peddlers, Peking Opera, acrobatics and kungfu. Its stage, built in 1933, was the first platform-style stage in China.

Subterranean Stream in Guilin

Taking three years to complete the Guanyan Subterranean Stream Scenic Area is now open to local and overseas visitors wanting to tour the Lijiang River in Guilin, Guangxi. The 12-kilometre-long underground river is located 29 kilometres from Guilin and is surrounded by stalagmites, stalactites and curiously shaped rocks everywhere. The palm-shaped stone columns also offer a spectacular sight. The area offers accommodation, dining, entertainment facilities as well as shopping and is a good place for travellers staying overnight in the Lijiang River area.

Mao's Park Opens

A special park to commemorate the late Chinese Leader Chairman Mao Zedong opened recently in his hometown of Changsha in Hunan Province just 500 metres from his former residence. It contains many replicas of historical relics associated with his career and life, including the Yan'an pagoda and monument on the Jingang Mountains were Mao worked and fought. In the centre of the park a commemorative hall houses a white marble statue of Mao, with six statues of his family members, including his first wife and son. The hall also has 200 photos of Mao and other commemorative material on display.

Beijing's Largest Bargain Shopping Arcade

Kai'en Bargain Shopping Arcade is the largest of its kind in Beijing. Covering 6,800 square metres and located at Sanhuan Road East, Chaoyang District it is situated adjacent to the commercial district. The shopping arcade has introduced a new concept in the form of a "Store Valued Card". A choice of 200, 500, 1,000 and 10,000 yuan cards are available with a 3% discount every time it is used.

Planned Qimuzhang Nature Reserve

Qimuzhang, the first nature reserve in Meizhou, Guangdong has been established recently. It is the largest broadleaf forest in Guangdong and situated in Datian Town, Wuhua County. The reserve, covering more than 6,000 hectares, has bountiful natural resources together with over 17 peaks, each over 1,000 kilometres high. More than 2,000 species of plants have been found here among which 1,061 samples have been taken and 15 species have been discovered and placed under protection, making it the leading reserve in the province. For the wildlife lover leopards, wildcats, snakes and mountain eagles can also be found here.

Solar Power in Guizhou

A mysterious spring whose flow is determined by sunshine has been discovered in Guiyang, southwest China's Guizhou Province. The spring is located in Rongni Village, 30 kilometres from Xingyi County, capital of the Bouyei and Miao Autonomous Prefecture. When the sunshine falls on the stone crevice, which is the source of the spring, about two tons of water oozes out for about 40 minutes. If the sun does not shine, not a drop of water appears. Villagers call it the "Spring of the Sun". Experts have found that the gravity of the spring water is some three per cent greater than that of ordinary water.

Tourism Booking Network

The first information network for overseas tourists wishing to subscribe to tours to the country has been set up in China. Jointly funded by the National Tourism Administration and the State Science and Technology Commission, the Yingte China Tourism Booking Network is a big step forward in providing service to tourists. By dialing the hotline (010) 492-8155, it is possible to receive booking information on tours and hotels. When served by the Smart Consultative System on the network, tourists can get access to international information channels such as the Internet and obtain booking information on travel to and around China. So far the network has a number of booking centres in the United States and Thailand.

AIRLINE UPDATES

Chengdu – Zhangjiajie Air Route

Presented by China Southwest Airlines Boeing 737 flights between Chengdu and Zhangjiajie are due to go into operation every Saturday and will take one hour and ten minutes. The scenery of Zhangjiajie National Forest Park compares favourably with the mighty Mount Taishan, elegant Guilin, strange Mount Huangshan and perilous Mount Huashan. Chengdu is regarded as a "Heavenly Kingdom" because of its many tourist attractions, namely Jiuzhaigou, Mount Emei, Leshan Giant Buddha, Dujiang Weir, Mount Qingcheng, etc. In addition, a route between Beijing and Zhangjiajie is also underway.

New Flights from Xi'an

China Northwest Airlines (CNWA) now offers two international flights to Japan and Macau from Xi'an, Shaanxi Province. Flights to Macau are every Tuesday and Saturday with a stop-over in Changsha, Hunan Province; while flights to Hiroshima are every Tuesday and Friday stopping over in Shanghai.

Sanya-Kuala Lumpur Flight

Sanya's second international air service began operations recently for chartered flights between Sanya City, Hainan Province and Malaysia's Kuala Lumpur.

Next Issue

Mysterious Ancient Bronze Weapons Unearthed in Yunnan

A Tour of Shenzhen Bay

Traversing the Yellow River Canyon in Winter

Next month one of our intrepid reporters attempts to traverse the Yellow River Canyon along the Shaanxi-Shanxi border in the dead of winter. In biting cold winds and temperatures as low as -20 °C he is beset by a variety of mishaps and detours but is determined to experience the unique culture of the village people along this valley and witnesses the Yellow River congested with huge chunks of frozen ice.

From the remote to the urban where delicious food, excellent shopping, varied night life and tourist attractions await you in Hong Kong's sister city, Shenzhen. Only a "stone's throw" away from Hong Kong, thanks to its easy and efficient transport routes, this is an ideal get-away for a day-trip or weekend break. Lastly, the 2,000-year-old bronze weapons recently unearthed in Yunnan Province make a fascinating study. These utensils and tools were so ornately carved that it is hard to believe they were for practical use. One sword vividly depicts the head-hunting practices of the primitive local people!

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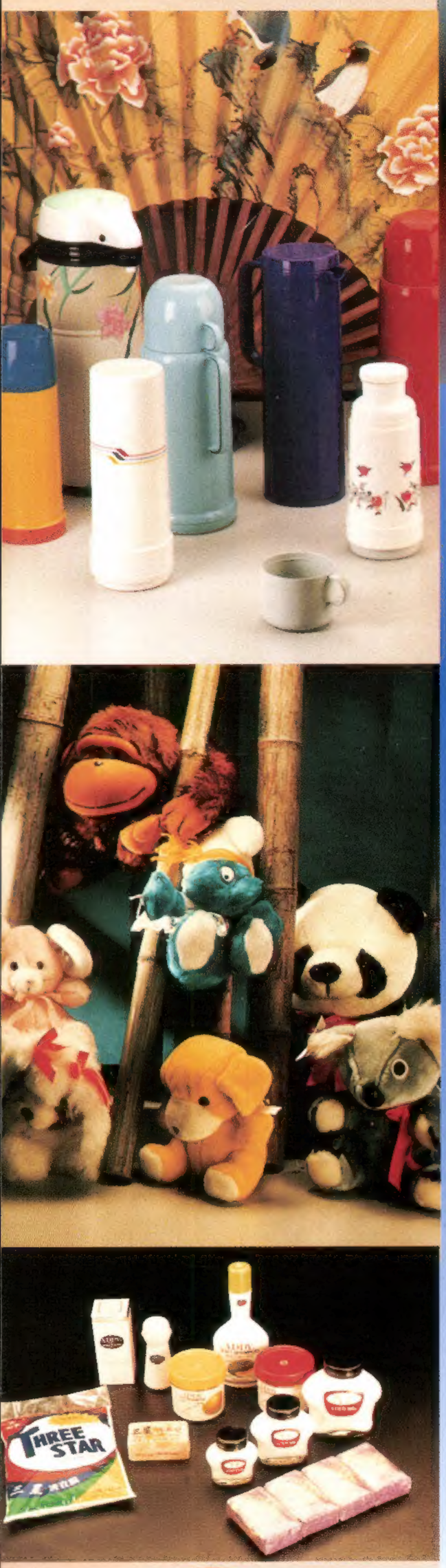

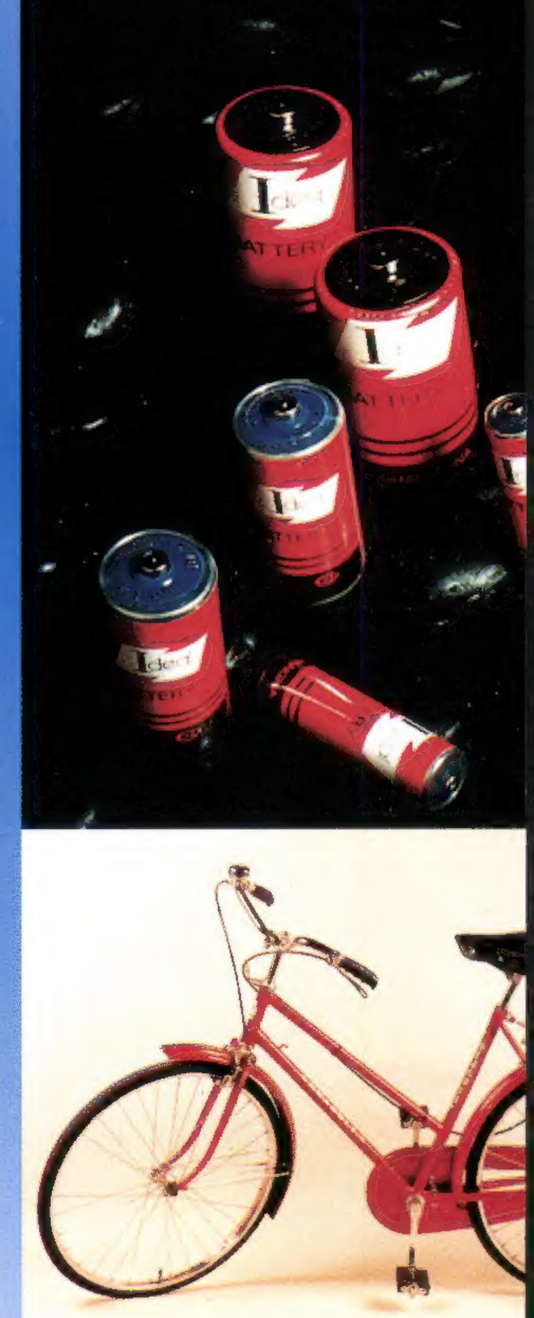

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Apart from folklore and theatrical performances in the scenic centre, tourists can easily get access to different means of traffic such as the elevated single-track car with a circular route, electromobile, Europe-style ancient carriage, Gypsy caravan, old-fashioned car, monopaddled sampan and pneumatic raft, etc.. And in the comprehensive service area, we cater the delicacies of season, and handicrafts and souvenirs with consummate skills of various countries, which await your choice. What's more, you may even find entertainment on the Carnival Night when teams of artists parade before you by presenting the delightful programmes of multi-national art and culture and customs.

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